

On Top Of The News Email: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) website: [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com) Tel: +297 582-7800 Wednesday, February 26, 2014



House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio is surrounded by reporters as he returns to the Capitol in Washington, Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014, following a meeting at the White House with President Barack Obama. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite) Page 3

## Obama and Boehner Meet at White House



**COUPLE STRIKES  
\$10M BONANZA  
OF GOLD COINS**

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**MAJOR BITCOIN  
EXCHANGE SAID  
NOW INSOLVENT**

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## LATIN AMERICAN BRIEFS

### Judge sets trial for El Chapo in motion

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — A judge has ruled that drug kingpin Joaquin Guzman will stay for the immediate future in Mexico, where authorities say there is no chance that the man known as “El Chapo” will escape his cell in the nation’s highest-security prison. The judge said Tuesday that Guzman will stand trial on drug trafficking charges. Mexico’s top officials say he must face all local charges and interrogation by investigators looking to dismantle his multi-billion dollar cartel before possible U.S. extradition. But cases have stalled, and last year one of Guzman’s closest allies walked out of prison. □

### Venezuela protest violence continues

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)** — The mayor of a coastal Venezuelan city says an anti-government protester has died in one of the confrontations that have roiled this country for weeks. Maracay Mayor Mario Briceno Iragorry says the protest turned chaotic when gunmen opened fire on demonstrators who blocked a street to protest the government of President Nicolas Maduro. Briceno tells Union Radio that protesters stampeded into a supermarket and began looting. The body of the protester was found outside the store Tuesday. □

### Chile helps stranded ship in Antarctica

**SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)** — A Korean-flagged fishing ship is stranded in Antarctica with 90 passengers aboard. Chile’s Navy said this week that the Kwang Ja Ho struck the ocean floor about 1,500 feet (450 meters) from the coast while cruising through Antarctic waters. The maritime governor for Chile’s portion of Antarctica says that a rescue mission was launched. Officials have confirmed that everyone on board is safe and that there currently is no risk of a fuel spill. The 93-meter (305-foot) trawler was coming from a Peruvian port and carried 817 tons of krill. □

### Colombia candidate stays in campaign

**BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)** — A leftist presidential candidate says she’ll continue with her campaign after an unidentified gunman on a motorcycle tried halt the convoy she was traveling in. No one was injured this week when the gunman exchanged gunfire with candidate Aida Avella’s security detail. The attack occurred in the northeastern state of Arauca, where leftist FARC rebels have a strong presence. Arauca’s police chief, Col. Camilo Alvarez, says Avella’s vehicle was not hit by any of the estimated eight to 10 shots fired. Avella recently returned to Colombia after 17 years in exile in Switzerland. □

### Mexico vigilantes mark 1st anniversary

**AJUCHITLAN, Mexico (AP)** — Hundreds of vigilantes gathered in the western Mexico state of Michoacan this week to celebrate the anniversary of a movement that chased a violent drug cartel out of many of its strongholds, and largely ended a reign of terror in which farmers, ranchers and businessmen were subjected to systematic extortion, kidnappings and killings. The “self-defense” forces organized a Mass to honor those who died in the fight to expel the Knights Templar drug cartel, and vowed not to permit such abuses again. After the Mass, armed self-defense leaders marched through La Ruana. □

## South African Judge: Parts of Pistorius trial may be broadcast

**ALAN COWELL**  
© 2014 New York Times

**LONDON** - A South African judge ruled Tuesday that substantial parts of the trial of Oscar Pistorius, the

athlete and his lawyers may not be broadcast in any way.

The judge depicted his decision as an attempt to balance the media’s rights

shot by accident through a bathroom door, believing her to be an intruder at his upscale home in the capital, Pretoria, where the trial is to be held.



In this 2013 photo, Olympic athlete Oscar Pistorius stands during his bail hearing in Pretoria, South Africa. Pistorius will defend himself March 3, 2014 against a charge of premeditated murder in the slaying of his girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp. A South Africa judge has ruled that television stations can broadcast parts of the trial live, but with restrictions on witness testimonies.

(AP Photo/Themba Hadebe)

double-amputee track star accused of murdering his girlfriend, may be televised and photographed, and that the hearings will be broadcast on radio in their entirety.

But testimony by Pistorius, and witnesses called by his defense team, will not be shown on television, Judge Dunstan Mlambo ruled, while confidential discussions between the

to freedom of expression against Pistorius’ concern that television coverage would compromise his right to a fair trial.

The athlete, nicknamed Blade Runner because of the prosthetics he uses to compete, is set to go on trial next Monday.

He is charged with the premeditated murder of his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp, whom he says he

The killing took place in the early hours of Feb. 14, 2013. South African broadcast outlets had sought permission for live courtroom coverage of the entire trial.

Mlambo said the request for broadcast rights presented a “contestation of rights” between the media’s constitutionally guaranteed right to free expression and Pistorius’ right to a fair trial. □

## Japan pushes to revive nuclear energy

**HIROKO TABUCHI**  
© 2014 New York Times

**TOKYO** - The government of Shinzo Abe made its biggest push yet to revive its nuclear energy program on Tuesday, announcing details of a national plan that designates atomic power as an important long-term electricity source.

The new Basic Energy Plan, which states Japan will push to restart reactors closed in the wake of the Fukushima disaster and suggests it might build new ones, overturns a promise made by a previous government to phase out the country’s atomic power

plants. It also marks a major vote of confidence for nuclear energy at a time when its worldwide prospects remain clouded by the multiple meltdowns at Fukushima three years ago. Japan’s minister for trade and industry, Toshimitsu Motegi, sought to play down the country’s policy reversal, telling reporters that Japan was still committed to “reducing its reliance on nuclear power.” But he also criticized the earlier commitment by Japan to go nuclear-free, first made by former Prime Minister Naoto Kan in the months after the 2011 accident, calling such

a policy “irresponsible” for a resource-poor nation.

Still, the government’s own energy plan remained vague, setting no specific targets for the role of nuclear energy in Japan. The country needs more time to figure out its “best mix” of energy sources, which would also include renewables like solar, wind and geothermal power, Motegi said. In leading Japan back to nuclear power, Abe’s government must walk a delicate line. Opinion polls show lingering public mistrust of nuclear safety and the government’s ability to oversee it. □



## U.S. expelling 3 Venezuelan diplomats: AP

LUIS ALONSO LUGO

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Obama administration said Tuesday that it has expelled three Venezuelan diplomats in response to similar action against three U.S. consular officials in Caracas.

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said Venezuelan envoys First Secretary Ignacio Luis Cajal Avalos, First Secretary Victor Manuel Pisani Azpurua and Second Secretary Marcos Jose Garcia Figueredo, have 48 hours to leave the U.S.

Venezuela President Nicolas Maduro expelled three U.S. diplomats from Caracas on Feb. 17, saying they were supporting opposition plots to overthrow him. White House spokesman Jay Carney took offense and said what is happening in Venezuela is an issue between Maduro and his people, not between Venezuela and the U.S.

"President Maduro needs to focus on addressing the legitimate grievances of the Venezuelan people through meaningful dialogue with them, not through dialogue with the United States," Carney said. "Despite what the Venezuelan government would like to lead people to believe, this is not a U.S.-Venezuela issue. It is an issue between Venezuela and its people."

"We've been clear all along that the future of Venezuela is for the Venezuelan people to decide," Carney said.

The State Department's Psaki cited U.S. concerns about Venezuela's record on human rights and support for democracy, but said Washington remains open to a diplomatic relationship with Maduro. But she said Venezuela "needs to show seriousness" for the U.S. to move forward with that process.

"Recent actions, including expelling three of our diplomats, continue to make that difficult," Psaki said. □

# Obama and Boehner Meet at White House

MICHAEL D. SHEAR

© 2014 New York Times

**WASHINGTON** — President Barack Obama and Speaker John A. Boehner sat down for an Oval Office face-to-face on Tuesday, the first publicly known meeting of its kind since Obama took office in 2009 not aimed at avoiding a looming fiscal crisis.

month since his State of the Union address vowing to circumvent Congress whenever possible — and acknowledging publicly that he does not have high hopes for progress on economic issues or an immigration overhaul.

"We've got a Congress that prefers to say no rather than yes right now,"

At the same time, Boehner has done little to suggest his House would advance any of the president's agenda in the months leading up to the midterm elections, telling his members this month that he would not pursue the immigration legislation that Obama supports, but which angered conservative Republicans.

crease premiums for 11 million workers, report says," the tweet read.

The meeting, first publicly acknowledged one between the two men since they tried to avert a fiscal crisis in December 2012, appeared not to have broken new ground on any particular issue in Washington. Jay Carney, the White House press secretary, told reporters that "not all conversations and meetings between the president and congressional leaders are read out to the press."

Carney asserted that the White House "is looking for a partner in Congress to advance part of that agenda." But he also noted that Boehner has in the past said he will never again negotiate with Obama.

Officials on both sides characterized Tuesday's meeting as "constructive" and offered a long list of subjects that were touched on.

"The two discussed a wide range of issues, including manufacturing, trade promotion authority, flood insurance, immigration, the president's health care law, Afghanistan, the appropriations process, California drought relief, wildfire suppression and the highway bill," an aide to the speaker said. "They agreed that there is a lot of work to do the rest of the year, and it is important to work together wherever we can find common ground." The Republican aide said that Boehner and Obama have spoken on the phone several times during the past year. □



**President Barack Obama meets with House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014. The Democratic president and Republican speaker met in the Oval Office, their first meeting alone at the White House since December 2012, when they failed to reach agreement on tax reform and spending cuts during deficit-reduction talks.**

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

The hourlong meeting between the two political adversaries came even as the leadership in both parties in Washington have largely resigned themselves to the fact that almost no legislation will break through the election-year partisan gridlock.

Obama has spent the

Obama told Democratic governors last week.

"They don't have an affirmative agenda. Their main strategy is to just try to do nothing and see if they can — falsely — give people a sense that somehow the policies that we're trying to pursue aren't working for them."

And Republicans have promised to roll back or change the Affordable Care Act. In a message posted on Twitter, even as the speaker was arriving at the White House, Boehner took a political jab at the president's top domestic policy.

"#ObamaCare may in-

## US and Britain reject East-West divide in Ukraine

MATTHEW LEE

AP Diplomatic Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The United States and Britain on Tuesday rejected suggestions that the ouster of Ukraine's pro-Russia president and the politics around it are representative of a Cold War-era East-West divide.

Secretary of State John Kerry and British Foreign Secretary William Hague both disputed the idea

that the situation in Ukraine is a "zero-sum game" between Russia and the West, or one in which one sphere of influence wins at the expense of the other. And, each urged Russia to work with the West in helping the Ukrainian people peacefully achieve their democratic aspirations.

"Both of us are committed to doing our part to support the efforts of people in Ukraine who have spoken

out on their own with passion for their ability to have a pluralistic, democratic future," Kerry said.

"This is not a zero-sum game it is not a West versus East, it should not be, it is not Russia or the United States or other choices. This is about the people of Ukraine and Ukrainian making a choice about their future. We want to work with Russia, with other countries, with everybody available to make

sure this is a peaceful from this day forward," he said. Hague echoed those comments.

"This is about the rights of a free people, a free democratic people to make their own decisions and we don't see it in a zero-sum way in international affairs," Hague said. "Our national interests are in the people of Ukraine being able to make their own decisions about their future." □



# Justices rule on home searches and defendants' assets

ADAM LIPTAK

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**WASHINGTON** - In a pair of 6-3 decisions, the Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that the police may sometimes search homes over the objections of one of their residents and that criminal defendants are not entitled to hearings to try to gain access to frozen assets to pay their lawyers. The case about searches followed a confrontation at the Los Angeles home of Walter Fernandez, who was suspected of a role in a robbery. "You don't have any right to come in here," he told police officers. "I know my rights."

Under a 2006 decision, *Georgia v. Randolph*, that objection was enough to bar a search of his home

without a warrant even if another occupant consented, at least so long that Fernandez remained present. The police arrested Fernandez on seeing that he had apparently beaten his domestic partner, Roxanne Rojas, who was also there. An hour later, with Fernandez at a police station, the police returned and Rojas let them in. They found weapons and evidence linking Fernandez to the robbery. He was convicted on robbery, gun and domestic abuse charges after the trial judge refused to suppress the evidence collected at his home, and he was sentenced to 14 years in prison. The question for the justices was whether the police should have obtained a warrant in



A U.S. Capitol Police officer stands guard on the Capitol steps with the Supreme Court building in the background, in Washington, Feb. 25, 2014. The Supreme Court ruled on Tuesday that the police may search a home without a warrant over the objection of a co-tenant after he is arrested and that criminal defendants whose assets were seized pending trial have no right to a hearing over whether they can use the assets to pay their lawyers.

(Stephen Crowley/The New York Times)

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light of Fernandez's objection. Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr., writing for the majority, said no.

The general rule, he said, was that any occupant's consent was sufficient. The 2006 decision, he added, was limited to objections from people who were physically present. Expanding that exception after the objecting occupants were gone, even at the hands of the police themselves, he wrote, "would raise a plethora of problems."

Among them, Alito wrote, was how long the objection had to be respected. "A week?" he asked. "A month? A year? Ten years?"

Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony M. Kennedy, Clarence Thomas and Stephen G. Breyer joined the majority opinion. Kennedy and Breyer had been in the majority in the 2006 decision.

In dissent, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, joined by justices Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan, wrote that "the police could readily have obtained a warrant to search the shared residence."

"Instead of adhering to the warrant requirement, today's decision tells the police they may dodge it, never mind ample time to

secure the approval of a neutral magistrate," Ginsburg wrote. "Suppressing the warrant requirement, the court shrinks to petite size our holding in *Georgia v. Randolph*."

The alignment of justices in the search case was fairly typical, as Breyer has recently been joining his more conservative colleagues in cases concerning the Fourth Amendment's prohibition of unreasonable searches.

The second decision featured a more scrambled alignment and a spirited dissent from Roberts, who was joined by Breyer and Sotomayor.

The case arose from the prosecution of Kerri and Brian Kaley, a New York couple, who were accused of participating in a scheme to obtain and sell prescription medical devices. They were unable to hire a lawyer to defend themselves because the government had frozen their assets.

A pair of 1989 Supreme Court decisions ruled that freezing assets before a criminal trial was permissible, even if it frustrated the defendant's ability to hire a lawyer, so long as there was probable cause that a crime had been committed and the assets were linked to the offenses described in the indictment. □



## APNewsBreak: Asiana Airlines penalized over crash

JUSTIN PRITCHARD

Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — U.S. transportation officials on Tuesday fined Asiana Airlines \$500,000 for failing to promptly contact passengers' families and keep them informed about their loved ones after a deadly crash last year at San Francisco airport, issuing the first penalty of its kind for the crash that left three Chinese teens dead.

The U.S. Department of Transportation said it took the South Korean airline five days to contact the families of all 291 passengers. In addition, a required crash hotline was initially routed to an automated reservations line.

Never before has the department concluded that an airline broke U.S. laws re-

quiring prompt and generous assistance to the loved ones of crash victims. Three people died and

landing.

"The last thing families and passengers should have to worry about at such a

Secretary Anthony Foxx said in a prepared statement.

Many of the families live in South Korea or China, meaning the airline was their main source of information on the crash half a world away.

In a statement emailed to The Associated Press, Asiana spokeswoman Hyomin Lee said, "Asiana provided extensive support to the passengers and their families following the accident and will continue to do so." A consent order the airline signed with the department says Asiana will pay a \$400,000 fine and gets a \$100,000 credit for "costs in sponsoring multiple industry-wide conferences and training sessions in 2013, 2014 and 2015, to provide lessons learned." □



In this 2013 aerial photo, the wreckage of Asiana Flight 214 lies at the San Francisco International Airport in San Francisco. Asiana Airlines has been penalized \$500,000 for failing to assist family members of passengers on the flight that crashed last year at San Francisco airport, federal transportation officials said Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014. (AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez)

dozens were injured on July 6 when Asiana Flight 214 clipped a seawall while

stressful time is how to get information from their carrier," U.S. Transportation

## First Colorado taxes reported are high from marijuana sales

KRISTEN WYATT

Associated Press

**DENVER (AP)** — A county in Colorado, one of two states to legalize recreational marijuana use, become the first to announce tax totals from the new industry. Pueblo County finance authorities announced Monday that its two shops had about \$1 million in total sales in January, producing about \$56,000 in local sales taxes. Pueblo County is one of the first outside Colorado's Denver metro region to allow recreational pot stores. Its two shops were to be joined by three more opening in February. "We recognize that the eyes of the world are watching us, and we are proud to have erected a robust regulatory environment in Pueblo County," County Commissioner Sal Pace said in a statement Tuesday.

Pueblo County Clerk Gilbert "Bo" Ortiz projected the marijuana industry will generate roughly \$670,000 in new tax revenue for his county this year. The money is a combination of a 3.5 percent pot sales tax approved by county voters last year, as well as "share-backs" from the state on general and pot-specific sales taxes. If Pueblo's sales continue at the January pace, the county's pot industry will make about \$11.2 million in gross sales in 2014, Ortiz projected.

Colorado has more than 160 licensed recreational pot stores, all of whom had to report sales taxes Feb. 20. Most of the stores are in Denver County, which hasn't yet reported its January tax haul.

Pueblo County is the first local government to make its recreational marijuana sales tax totals public. □

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<b>Entrée</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fresh Catch of the Day prepared by our local chef just the way you like it.</li> <li>• Jumbo Shrimp from our local waters, breaded served with potato or rice or with garlic tossed over linguine.</li> <li>• Filet Mignon* 8 oz. US Tenderloin</li> <li>• Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast</li> </ul>
<b>Dessert</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chocolate or Banana Cake</li> <li>• Ice Cream</li> <li>• Coffee / Tea</li> </ul>

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## US couple strike \$10 million gold-coin bonanza

**JOHN ROGERS**  
**Associated Press**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — A California couple out walking their dog on their stumbled across a modern-day bonanza: \$10 million in rare, mint-condition gold coins buried in the shadow of an old tree.

Nearly all of the 1,427 coins, dating from 1847 to 1894, are in uncirculated, mint condition, said David Hall, co-founder of Professional Coin Grading Service of Santa Ana, which recently authenticated them. Although the face value of the gold pieces only adds up to about \$27,000, some of them are so rare that coin experts say they could fetch nearly \$1 million apiece.

"I don't like to say once-in-a-lifetime for anything,

but you don't get an opportunity to handle this kind of material, a treasure like this, ever," said veteran numismatist Don Kagin, who is representing the finders. "It's like they found the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow."

Kagin, whose family has been in the rare-coin business for 81 years, would say little about the couple other than that they are husband and wife, are middle-aged and have lived for several years on the rural property where the coins were found. They have no idea who put them there, he said.

The pair are choosing to remain anonymous, Kagin said, in part to avoid a renewed gold rush to their property by modern-day prospectors armed with

metal detectors.

They also don't want to be treated any differently, said David McCarthy, chief numismatist for Kagin Inc. of Tiburon.

"Their concern was this would change the way everyone else would look

them away as soon as they were put into circulation.

Because paper money was illegal in California until the 1870s, he added, it's extremely rare to find any coins from before that of such high quality.

"It wasn't really until the

were minted in San Francisco, one \$5 gold piece came from as far away as Georgia.

Kagin and McCarthy would say little about the couple's property or its ownership history, other than it's in a sprawling hilly area of Gold



This image shows one of the six decaying metal canisters filled with 1800s-era U.S. gold coins unearthed in California by two people who want to remain anonymous. The value of the "Saddle Ridge Hoard" treasure trove is estimated at \$10 million or more.

(AP Photo/SRH via Kagin's, Inc.)

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at them, and they're pretty happy with the lifestyle they have today," he said. They plan to put most of the coins up for sale through Amazon while holding onto a few keepsakes. They'll use the money to pay off bills and quietly donate to local charities, Kagin said. Before they sell them, they are loaning some to the American Numismatic Association for its National Money Show, which opens Thursday in Atlanta.

What makes their find particularly valuable, McCarthy said, is that almost all of the coins are in near-perfect condition. That means that whoever put them into the ground likely soaked

1880s that you start seeing coins struck in California that were kept in real high grades of preservation," he said.


The coins, in \$5, \$10 and \$20 denominations, were stored more or less in chronological order, McCarthy said, with the 1840s and 1850s pieces going into one canister until it was filed, then new coins going into the next one and the next one after that. The dates and the method indicated that whoever put them there was using the ground as their personal bank and that they weren't swooped up all at once in a robbery.

Although most of the coins

Country, as the region that was the site of the 1849 Gold Rush is known. The coins were found along a path the couple had walked for years. On the day they found them last spring, the woman had bent over to examine an old rusty can that erosion had caused to pop slightly out of the ground.

"Don't be above bending over to check on a rusty can," he said she told him. They are located on a section of the property the couple nicknamed Saddle Ridge, and Kagin is calling the find the Saddle Ridge Hoard. He believes it could be the largest such discovery in U.S. history. □






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## US Financial Front:

# American consumer confidence dips slightly in February

**MARTIN CRUTSINGER**  
**AP Economics Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. consumer confidence fell slightly in February over concerns about the near-term outlook for business conditions and jobs. The Conference Board said Tuesday that its confidence index dipped to 78.1 this month, down from 79.4 in January.

"Consumers believe the economy has improved, but they do not foresee it gaining considerable momentum in the months ahead," said Lynn Franco, director of economic indicators at the Conference Board.

Consumer sentiment is closely watched for indications about how it will impact consumer spending, which accounts for 70 per-

cent of economic activity. Views about current conditions increased for the fourth consecutive month and now stand at the highest level in almost six years. But the index that tracks consumer expectations dipped slightly, pulling the overall reading down.

Amna Asaf, an economist at Capital Economics, said the small decline in February likely reflected the bad weather that much of the country has had to endure this winter. She said it also could have been a delayed reaction to the tumble the stock market took in January. But with the stock market now rebounding, she predicted confidence will rise as well.

"The improving fundamentals suggest that a rebound (in confidence) is



**Steve Moren examines flowers for purchase at the Flower Market in Los Angeles. The Conference Board released the Consumer Confidence Index for February, on Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014.**

(AP Photo/Nick Ut)

## US home prices dip for second straight month

**C. S. RUGABER**  
**AP Economics Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. home prices fell for the second straight month in December as brutally cold weather, tight supply and higher costs slowed sales. The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index declined 0.1 percent from November to December, matching the previous month's decline. The index is not adjusted for seasonal variations, so the dip partly reflects slower buying as winter weather set in.

For all of 2013, however, prices rose by a healthy 13.4 percent, mostly because of big gains earlier in the year. That was the largest calendar year gain in eight years. But the year-

over-year gain slowed from November's 13.7 percent pace.

That's only the second time that year-over-year increases have declined since prices began recovering two years ago.

The figures come after other reports show that home sales and construction have slowed after strong gains last year. Most economists expect the housing recovery will continue this year, though likely at a slower pace.

"The market should continue its slow march back to normal, as annual (price) appreciation rates fall to more sustainable levels around 3 percent," said Stan Humphries, chief economist at real estate data provider Zillow. □

just around the corner," she said.

In the expectations category, consumer sentiment about the labor market was a bit more pessimistic than it has been, possibly reflecting two months of weak job gains. Employers added a tepid

113,000 jobs in January after a lackluster gain of 75,000 in December. That was far below last year's monthly average of 194,000.

There was solid hiring in manufacturing and construction last month and that has contributed to optimism that the weaker job

growth was a temporary lull and not the start of another swoon for the economy.

The Federal Reserve at its December and January meetings have trimmed its monthly bond purchases and indicated that it feels the economy is gaining momentum. □

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# For same-sex marrieds, a new tax season dawns

**TARA SIEGEL BERNARD**  
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Tax season doesn't usually stir up emotions about the meaning of family and equal rights.

But this year is different, at least for the tens of thousands of same-sex married couples who, for the first time, will be required to file federal income tax returns that reflect their married status. Whether couples ultimately owe more in taxes or receive big refunds, for many of them it will provide a long-awaited sense of validation.

"It's a big deal that an institution like the IRS has to acknowledge our union and change its processes for us," said Krystal Banzon, 29, who, in 2011, married Claudia Narvaez-Meza, a social worker and family therapist, in a small Buddhist ceremony in New York.

The changes in the tax law are the result of the monumental Supreme Court decision in June that gave same-sex marriage two legal victories. But like many gay couples, Banzon, who works for NBCUniversal, said excitement about the changes quickly gave way to confusion and raised many questions.

One of the thorniest, for example, is whether now-married gay couples should also amend previous returns. Under the law they generally can choose to refile their last three tax returns using a married filing status - a potentially worthwhile move if it generates a nice refund. But how should couples approach that process?

And there are other issues: Can you easily recover the extra taxes many gay employees incurred when they bought health insurance for their spouses, for instance? And what do couples living in states that don't recognize their unions need to know?

To answer some of these questions, Banzon and Narvaez-Meza, who have a 1-year-old son, Malaya, sought the advice of Janis Cowhey McDonagh, a partner at Marcum, an

accounting firm in New York with a practice that specializes in tax and estate planning for same-sex couples.

The verdict on the past taxes: She suggested that they amend their 2011 return, which could generate an

three years from the date the original return was filed or two years from the date the tax was paid, whichever is later, according to the Internal Revenue Service. That means time is running out for 2010 returns.

And though I heard from

property owners could also lose the ability to take losses, said Lillian Gonzalez, an accountant in Stoughton, Mass.

Even if a joint filing would generate a refund, combining income may create other unexpected con-

of that coverage. Workers weren't permitted to pay for the insurance using pretax dollars either, unlike their opposite-sex married peers. To get a refund on both of those items, the couple needs to amend the entire federal return



**Claudia Narvaez-Meza, right, and Krystal Banzon, who were married in 2011, with their son, Malaya Narvaez-Banzon, in New York. This year, same-sex married couples for the first time will be required to file federal income tax returns that reflect their married status.**

(Uli Seit/The New York Times)

additional \$800 refund, but said to leave 2012 alone. Looking ahead, they are likely to get about \$2,500 more back on their 2013 return than if they filed as singles. "You really have to take a step back and look at the entire picture," McDonagh said. "It's not always easy to say whether you will get a refund or not."

Many high-earning couples who earn similar incomes will pay much more by filing jointly. Here are some things to consider as tax season gets into full swing:

**Q: Am I required to amend my returns?**

A: No. You can choose to amend if it will generate a refund for a particular year. As long as you were married during the tax year, you can generally amend your returns for

a reader who amended a return even with the knowledge that more taxes would be owed, the reader was surprised to learn that interest was owed on the portion of taxes not paid. You're forewarned.

**Q: What else should I consider?**

A: Couples could potentially lose a variety of deductions or credits - from student loan interest to the child tax credit - when combining their incomes. While one spouse might have been able to take the full child tax credit, worth \$1,000, it begins to phase out for couples with modified adjusted gross income of more than \$110,000.

Same-sex couples could also lose the widely used adoption credit, which cannot be taken to adopt your spouse's child, McDonagh added. Rental

sequences. It may cause one spouse to become ineligible to contribute to a Roth IRA, which is subject to income limits, Gonzalez added, and possible penalties. "For people who are younger, it may make more sense to leave the contribution in there and let it grow, and not file the amended return," she said. The bottom line: "Run the numbers, run the numbers," said Pan Haskins, an accountant in California.

**Q: I paid extra taxes on the value of my spouse's health insurance coverage. How do I get that money back?**

A: First, some background: When same-sex marriage wasn't federally recognized, people who bought health insurance for their gay spouses through an employer often paid income taxes on the value

(using Form 1040X) using a married filing status. So they will need to run the numbers and make sure it's still worth recovering the money, experts said, since they can't cherry-pick and get a refund for these taxes alone.

Taxpayers may be able to find the extra taxes paid on their W-2 or on their last paystub for that year; otherwise, ask your employer.

**Q: If the value of my health insurance increased my income, I probably also paid more in payroll taxes for Social Security and Medicare. How do I get that money back?**

A: You can get this money back without amending your entire return. Start by asking if your employer plans on recovering the money for you. If not, you can file a Form 843 for a refund. □





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## Egypt taps new prime minister ahead of vote

KAREEM FAHIM

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**CAIRO** - Egypt's president named a new prime minister on Tuesday, a day after his predecessor abruptly announced the resignation of the military-backed government that had managed the country since July. The new premier, Ibrahim Mehlib, is an engineer who headed a state-owned construction company and served in the ruling party of former President Hosni Mubarak. Mehlib, who is also the outgoing housing minister, said at a news conference that he would name a new Cabinet in three to four days. The departing prime minister, Hazam el-Bablawi, did not say why he had chosen to resign, a decision that surprised his own ministers. El-Bablawi's government had faced public anger over a growing list of crises, including worker strikes, fuel shortages and an intensifying campaign of attacks by anti-government militants. His resignation was also seen as a possible precursor to the announcement of a presidential run by Field Marshal Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi, the head of the military and the country's dominant political figure. Mehlib's promotion to prime minister comes amid growing criticism of Egypt's military rulers by Egyptians who complain that the policies, the institutions and even the faces of the Mubarak era are being rehabilitated. □

## Ukraine:

## Infighting stalls efforts to form a new government

David M. Herszenhorn

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**KIEV, Ukraine** - Struggling to reach a deal to form a new majority coalition in parliament, and under excruciating pressure because of a looming economic disaster, the Ukrainian lawmakers temporarily running the country Tuesday delayed until Thursday the naming of an acting prime minister and a provisional government.

The delay underscored the difficulty that lawmakers now face in rebuilding the collapsed government left behind when President Viktor Yanukovich fled Kiev on Saturday and was removed from power in a vote supported by some members of his own party. The three main opposition parties, which share little in common politically, have been in fierce negotiations, not just among themselves but also with civic activists and other groups representing the many constituencies involved in Ukraine's three months of civic uprising.

Arseniy P. Yatsenyuk, the leader in parliament of the Fatherland Party and a leading contender to serve as acting prime minister, pleaded with colleagues to swiftly reach an agreement on the designation of an interim government, which is needed to formally request emergency economic assistance from the International Monetary

Fund.

"The deadline is Thursday, and I urge all democratic parties and all democratic persons and all democratic M.P.'s urgently to finalize the deal on the coalition," Yatsenyuk told reporters outside the parliament

need to be very frank and open."

A \$15 billion bailout package secured by Yanukovich from Russia in December has been suspended, and Ukraine is now hurtling toward default. The value of the cur-

be unable to pay public salaries or pensions. In a statement Monday, the acting finance minister said the country would need \$35 billion in assistance between now and the end of next year.

In Kiev, the new speaker



**EU Foreign Policy Chief Catherine Ashton, left, and former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko meet in Kiev, Ukraine, Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014. The European Union's top foreign policy official urged Ukraine's new government to work out a reform program so that the West could consider financial aid to the country's battered economy.**

(AP Photo/Olexander Prokopenko)

chamber. "We need urgently to hammer out this deal and to form the new government who is to be in charge of the country."

"It's not about the personalities," Yatsenyuk added. "This is about the responsibility. You know to be in this government is to commit political suicide, and we

rency, the hryvnia, has fallen sharply, and the country's bond rating has been downgraded so steeply by ratings agencies that the country effectively can no longer borrow on the international markets.

Foreign reserves have plummeted, and the Ukrainian government will soon

of parliament, Oleksandr V. Turchynov, who is a veteran lawmaker and a former acting prime minister, has been designated to carry out the duties of president. On Tuesday, parliament voted 316-0 to authorize Turchynov to sign legislation adopted by parliament. □



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## Uganda tabloid prints list of 'top' homosexuals

**R. MUHUMUZA**  
**Associated Press**

**KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)**

— A Ugandan newspaper published a list Tuesday of what it called the country's "200 top" homosexuals, outing some Ugandans who previously had not identified themselves as gay one day after the president enacted a harsh anti-gay law.

Many of those named fear violence, and some want to leave the country, an activist said.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Monday's signing of the bill by President Yoweri Museveni marked "a tragic day for Uganda and for all who care about the cause of human rights" and warned that Washington could cut aid to the government of the East African nation.

"Now that this law has been enacted, we are beginning an internal review of our relationship with the Government of Uganda to ensure that all dimensions of our engagement, including assistance programs, uphold our anti-discrimination policies and principles and reflect our values," Kerry said in a statement.

The Red Pepper tabloid published the names — and some pictures — of alleged homosexuals in a front-page story under the headline: "EXPOSED!"

Red Pepper news editor,

nicknames for those not publicly gay. Others, such as a retired Anglican cleric who supports gay rights, are listed as sympathizers. Byarabaha offered no details about how the full list

ma, who has repeatedly warned that Uganda's new anti-gay law could spark violence against homosexuals. A popular Ugandan hip-hop star and a Catholic priest are also on the list.



A Ugandan reads a copy of the "Red Pepper" tabloid newspaper in Kampala, Uganda Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014. The Ugandan newspaper published a list Tuesday of what it called the country's "200 top" homosexuals, outing some Ugandans who previously had not identified themselves as gay, one day after the president Yoweri Museveni enacted a harsh anti-gay law.

(AP Photo/Stephen Wandera)

Ben Byarabaha, said they published the full names of only the well-known activists and had tried to use

was compiled.

The list included prominent Ugandan gay activists such as Pepe Julian Onzie-

ma, who has repeatedly warned that Uganda's new anti-gay law could spark violence against homosexuals. A popular Ugandan hip-hop star and a Catholic priest are also on the list.

## Kashmir: anti-India protesters clash with police

**AIJAZ HUSSAIN**  
**Associated Press**

**SRINAGAR, India (AP)**

— Police fired bullets and tear gas as hundreds of pro-independence villagers tried to storm a police station in Indian-controlled Kashmir on Tuesday, a day after government forces killed seven suspected rebels in the disputed region, police said.

One protester was shot and wounded, police said. At least four policemen, three other protesters and two

photographers covering the protests were also hurt, officials said.

Police said the protesters burned two police bunkers. The crowd shouted pro-independence slogans and demanded that authorities identify the suspected rebels and hand over their bodies for burial, according to police officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

Muneer Ahmed, a witness

reached by telephone, said police fired dozens of bullets at the crowd in Kupwara, a forested region about 150 kilometers (95 miles) northwest of Srinagar, the main city in Indian-controlled Kashmir.

Authorities later handed over the bodies to villagers, senior police officer J.P. Singh said.

Thousands joined their funeral shouting anti-India slogans and calling for Kashmir's independence.

On Monday, Indian sol-

diers killed seven rebels in a gunbattle in Kupwara, the army said.

Army spokesman Lt. Col. Nitin Narhar Joshi said the fighting erupted when Indian soldiers came under rebel gunfire while patrolling the area.

The report could not be independently verified.

Syed Ali Geelani, a top separatist leader in Indian-held Kashmir, called for a general strike on Friday to mourn the victims. □

## Dozens killed during Nigeria school attack

**ADAMU ADAMU**  
**MICHELLE FAUL**

**Associated Press**

**DAMATURU, Nigeria (AP)**

— Islamic militants killed 29 students in a pre-dawn attack Tuesday on a north-east Nigerian school, survivors said, setting ablaze a locked dormitory and shooting and slitting the throats of those who escaped through windows. Some were burned alive. Soldiers guarding a checkpoint near the government school were mysteriously withdrawn hours before the attack, said the spokesman for the governor of Yobe state.

Female students were spared in the attack, said spokesman Abdullahi Bego. The attackers went to the female dormitories and told the young women to go home, get married and abandon the Western education they said is anathema to Islam, he said. He was relating to The Associated Press what survivors and community leaders told Gov. Ibrahim Gaidam when he visited the now-deserted and destroyed Federal Government College at Buni Yadi, a secondary school 70 kilometers (45 miles) south of the state capital, Damaturu.

The militants locked the door of one dormitory where male students were sleeping and then set it ablaze, slitting the throats of those who tried to clamber out of windows and gunning down those who ran away, said teacher Adamu Garba.

Some students were burned alive in the attack that began around 2 a.m., he said. □





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# Jamaica panel to examine bloody 2010 security raid

**DAVID McFADDEN**  
**Associated Press**

**KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)**

— Jamaica appointed a fact-finding panel Monday to examine a May 2010 operation by security forces that killed more than 70 citizens in gritty slums during a state of emergency on the Caribbean island.

The government said the long-sought commission of inquiry will conduct a "fair and impartial" look at the deadly operation in Tivoli Gardens and a patchwork of other so-called "garrison" ghettos in West Kingston to catch the island's biggest gang boss and exert legal authority over the area. The commission will be led by David Simmons, a retired chief justice and former attorney general of Barbados. It's not clear when the panel will begin hearings, but the government says it will try to conclude its inquiry within three months of whenever it starts. It says commissioners may hold a mix of public and private hearings.

The inquiry is expected to examine the conduct of

security forces, how people were killed and whether citizens' rights were violated by law enforcement officers or anyone else.

Nearly four years after the offensive by Jamaican military and police, basic details of what happened remain murky even though it was the bloodiest episode in Jamaica's recent history. There have been numerous allegations of unlawful killings in the barricaded housing complex of Tivoli Gardens, and human rights groups have been calling for an independent inquiry for years.

Last year, residents of battle-scarred Tivoli Gardens rallied in Jamaica's capital to demand accountability and justice for what they insist were numerous indiscriminate killings, arbitrary arrests and even mortar explosions by security forces. Gang kingpin Christopher "Dudus" Coke and his "Shower Posse" criminal empire once dominated the slum. He was sought on a U.S. extradition warrant that Jamaica had stonewalled for nine months.

After denying it previously, the Jamaica Defense Force acknowledged in 2012 that its troops used mortar fire to break through heavy barriers

of Jamaica's security forces have said their men came under heavy gunfire inside Tivoli, but residents dispute that. Very few weapons

ered to Parliament in May, Public Defender Earl Witter said 76 civilians and one soldier were killed. His office has been looking into



**A girl walks behind a concertina wire at a military checkpoint in the Tivoli Gardens neighborhood of Kingston, Jamaica. On Monday, Feb. 24, 2014, Jamaica appointed a fact-finding panel to examine the operation by security forces that killed more than 70 citizens in gritty slums during a state of emergency on the Caribbean island that aimed to catch the island's biggest gang boss, Christopher "Dudus" Coke, and exert legal authority over the area.**

(AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

acades that Coke's supporters had erected to block entry to the slum. Leaders

were recovered in the operation.

In an interim report deliv-

complaints that 44 of the 76 civilian deaths could have been unjustifiable. □

# Violence spreads to another Bangkok protest site

**BANGKOK (AP)** — Violence spread Tuesday to another anti-government protest site in Thailand's capital following weekend explosions that left five people dead, including four children, security officials said.

Deputy National Police spokesman Anucha Romyanan said gunmen attacked a protest camp near Lumpini Park in downtown Bangkok early Tuesday. He said shots were fired from a car and a motorcycle at protest site guards there and at another protest site near the upscale Ratchaprasong

shopping area.

On Sunday, a grenade attack at Ratchaprasong killed a 6-year-old girl and her 4-year-old brother. A 5-year-old girl died Saturday from another attack on a rally site in the eastern province of Trat and a second 5-year-old girl succumbed to her wounds Tuesday.

The attacks, for which no one has been arrested, are the latest in a spate of protest-related violence roiling Thailand over the past three months. The protesters want Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra to re-

sign to make way for an appointed interim government to implement reforms aimed at ousting her powerful family from politics, but she has refused.

Anucha said one man was injured in the leg in the Tuesday morning shootings. He did not say if the guards, some of whom are armed, returned fire. At least 20 people have been killed and more than 700 have been hurt since November in violence related to the protests.

On Monday night, a grenade was fired from an M79 launcher near the head-

quarters of the opposition Democrat Party, which is closely allied with the militant anti-government protest movement. There were no injuries but a car was damaged.

While the protesters have failed repeatedly to force Yingluck out by their self-declared deadlines, they have blocked her from working at her normal offices and sent roving mobs after her, making it difficult for her and Cabinet colleagues to make public appearances. The protesters have succeeded in delaying the completion of a

general election called by Yingluck, undermining efforts to restore political stability.

Thailand has seen sometimes-violent political conflict since 2006, when then-Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, Yingluck's billionaire brother, was removed by a military coup after being accused of corruption and abuse of power. Thaksin's supporters and opponents have since taken to the streets for extended periods in a struggle for power.



# Major bitcoin exchange said to be insolvent

**RAPHAEL SATTER  
YURIKO NAGANO  
Associated Press**

**TOKYO (AP)** — One of the world's largest bitcoin exchanges has seemingly disappeared, delivering a severe blow to the virtual currency as it struggles to gain legitimacy. A coalition of virtual currency companies said

ers' trust, but did not offer details. "As with any new industry, there are certain bad actors that need to be weeded out, and that is what we are seeing today," the statement said. Since its creation in 2009, bitcoin has become popular among tech enthusiasts, libertarians and adventurous investors because

math of the Mt. Gox collapse Tuesday, one bitcoin stood at around \$470. Central banks across the globe have been hesitant to recognize bitcoin as a legitimate form of money, and Mt. Gox's virtual vanishing isn't helping. Mt. Gox "reminds us of the downside of decentralized, unregulated curren-

out the scale of the problem. An 11-page "Crisis Strategy Draft" published on the blog of entrepreneur and bitcoin enthusiast Ryan Selkis said that 740,000 bitcoins are missing from Mt. Gox, which roughly translates to hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of losses, although figures are fuzzy given Bitcoin's ex-

## Spain PM Rajoy offers job plans as growth gains

**CIARAN GILES  
Associated Press**

**MADRID (AP)** — Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy revised upward Spain's economic growth forecasts Tuesday as he announced tax cuts and job creation incentives to give the country a boost after punishing years of recession. Rajoy opened Parliament's annual state-of-the-nation debate saying Spain had turned the corner thanks to his conservative government's reforms and sacrifices made by Spaniards. "Spain was a drag on Europe, now it is part of the driving engine," said Rajoy. He raised the economic growth forecast for this year to 1 percent from 0.7 percent and for 2015 to 1.5 percent from 1.2 percent. Rajoy said Spain would begin to create jobs in 2014 but he would not be satisfied until the 26 percent unemployment rate is reduced substantially. The rate is the second-highest in the 28-nation European Union. Spain's economy began to crumble in 2008 with the collapse of its bloated real-estate sector. It emerged from a two-year recession late last year as investor confidence returned and the country's borrowing costs dropped from perilously high levels in 2012 to pre-crisis rates this year. Without giving many details, Rajoy said an income tax reform to be presented in June would lower rates for 12 million of Spain's 17 million tax payers. He said income tax would be scrapped for people earning less than 12,000 euros (\$16,500) a year. Rajoy said businesses offering new employees permanent contracts would have a flat monthly social security payment of 100 euros for the first two years but must keep that person employed for at least three years. Opposition Socialist party leader Alfredo Perez Rubalcaba accused Rajoy of distorting reality with his rosier predictions, asking him: "What country do you live in?"



**Bitcoin trader Kolin Burges, right, of London and American Aaron (only his first name was given) hold protest signs as they conduct a sit-in in front of the office tower housing Mt. Gox in Tokyo Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014. Burgess said he had picketed the building since Feb. 14 after flying in from London, hoping to get back \$320,000 he has tied up with Mt Gox.**

(AP Photo/Kaori Hitomi)

Tuesday that Tokyo-based Mt. Gox went under after secretly racking up catastrophic losses. Mt. Gox's website was returning a blank page Tuesday. The disappearance of the site follows the resignation Sunday of Mt. Gox CEO Mark Karpeles from the board of the Bitcoin Foundation, a group seeking legitimacy for the exotic new form of money. The exchange had imposed a ban on withdrawals earlier this month. Prominent supporters of bitcoin — including San Francisco-based wallet service Coinbase and Chinese exchange BTC China — sought to shore up confidence in the currency by saying Mt. Gox's collapse was an isolated case of mismanagement. They said it had abused us-

it allows people to make one-to-one transactions, buy goods and services and exchange money across borders without involving banks, credit card issuers or other third parties. Criminals like bitcoin for the same reasons. For various technical reasons, it's hard to know just how many people around the world own bitcoins, but the currency has attracted outside media attention and the fascination of millions as an increasing number of large retailers such as Overstock.com begin to accept it. Speculative investors have jumped into the bitcoin fray, too, sending the currency's value fluctuating wildly in recent months. In December, the value of a single bitcoin hit an all-time high of \$1,200. In the after-

cies. There is no Federal Reserve or IMF to come to the rescue. There is no deposit insurance," said Campbell Harvey, a professor at the Duke University Fuqua School of Business who specializes in financial markets and global risk management. Campbell believes, however, that Mt. Gox's disappearance "doesn't mean the end of the road" for bitcoin and other virtual currencies. The collapse "might represent the end of the 'wild west,' where anyone can set up shop and deal in crypto-currencies," he said. But "increasingly sophisticated investors" are funding serious ventures that will "raise both quality and confidence." Documents purportedly leaked from Mt. Gox lay

treme volatility. "At the risk of appearing hyperbolic, this could be the end of bitcoin, at least for most of the public," the draft said. In a post to his blog, Selkis said that the document was handed to him by a "reliable source" and that several people close to the company had confirmed the figures. Reached by phone, he declined further comment. The Japanese government has not announced any formal investigation. The scandal may cost customers dearly. At the Tokyo office tower housing Mt. Gox, bitcoin trader Kolin Burges said he had picketed the building since Feb. 14 after flying in from London, hoping to get back \$320,000 he has tied up in bitcoins with Mt. Gox. □





## Divi Resorts Carnival Bowl and Queen Elections a Hit!



**PALM BEACH** - Last Friday Divi Resorts Aruba Human Resources team organized their great Carnival Glow Bowl and Queen Election. All Divi properties dominated Eagle bowling with a phenomenal party atmosphere. All lanes were filled with creative teams ready to bowl and have fun. To top the night there was the Queen election with impressive shows. 6 Queens participated for the Divi Carnival Queen 2014 crown with a speech, costume and small show. The shows were a lot of fun and the supporters trembled Eagle bowling with their screams. The winners of this event: 2nd runner up Rugiensely Geerman from Phoenix Front office with a beautiful costume and fun group of supporters; 1st finalist Lisandra Tromp from Divi Village Front office also

with a beautiful costume and great speech and great show. The winner was Rayda Oduber from Phoenix Sales with her Flower Power Crew that filled the room with a colorful blast from the past honoring our 60 years of Aruba's Carnival. She was crowned Divi Carnival Queen 2014.

Also the most animated team was congratulated with a great prize for all participants. "The Pharaohs"

team from Accounting, IT and Activities went all out with fabulous Egyptian Themed Costumes.

A special thanks goes to Octavio Hodge for doing such a great job as the MC for the night. It was a fun filled event and we give thanks to the HR team for organizing it as well as all Divi employees that came and made it a wonderful evening. Congratulations to all!





## U.S. Coast Guard conducts successful port security audit seminar in Curacao



**WILLEMSTAD** - The Maritime Authority of Curacao and the United States Coast Guard International Port Security Program, in cooperation with the Harbormaster, conducted a port security audit seminar February 19-21.

Officials from police, customs, and fire service departments participated in the seminar. Members from the Curacao Port Authority, Isla Refinery, Curacao Dry Dock, Curacao Pilot Organization, and Curacao Port Services were also in attendance.

Representatives from the International Port Security Program visit Curacao each year to exchange port security information and best practices.

The focus of the seminar was improving the implementation of the International Ship and Port Security Code, which is a standard published by the International Maritime Organization. The Curacao Port Services kindly hosted a training audit of the container facility. U.S. Consul General James Moore and local authorities attended the certification ceremony. □

## Centrale Bank van Aruba's bulletin of December 2013

**MONEY SUPPLY DROPPED:** The Centrale Bank van Aruba concludes in its monthly bulletin of December 2013 that money supply dropped by Afl. 102.7 million to Afl. 3,293.8 million, as a result of declines in both net domestic assets and net foreign assets (excluding revaluation differences of gold and foreign exchange holdings) of, respectively, Afl. 56.0 million and Afl. 46.7 million. The contraction in the domestic component of money supply was associated with an Afl. 71.4 million decrease in domestic credit, which was partially mitigated by an Afl. 15.4 million increase in non-credit related balance sheet items. Domestic credit shrank largely as a result of an Afl. 73.2 million decrease in the net claims of the banking sector on the public sector, stemming mostly from an Afl. 55.2 million rise in government deposits. Claims on the private sector grew by Afl. 1.8 million, attributed to increases in housing mortgages and consumer credit of, respectively, Afl. 3.0 million (+0.3 percent) and Afl. 1.2 million (+0.2 percent), which were partially offset by an Afl. 2.1 million (-0.2 percent) drop in commercial loans. The rise in non-credit related balance sheet items was mostly associated with clearing transactions.

The Afl. 46.7 million fall in net foreign assets was caused mainly by payments for imports of goods, interest and dividends, and net transfers to foreign accounts of resident companies, which were largely mitigated by gross tourism receipts.

In December 2013, the consumer price index (CPI) rose by 0.1 percent, compared to the corresponding month in 2012. The factors causing this growth were recreation and culture, restaurants and hotels, beverages and tobacco products, and housing. Excluding the effect of food and energy (which partly impacts the housing and transport components), the core CPI grew by 0.2 percent, compared to December 2012. The 12-month average inflation rate was -2.4 percent in December 2013, compared to a year earlier. Excluding the energy and food components, the core CPI went up by 0.2 percent.

In December 2013, the number of stay-over visitors reached 100,290, which is 11.3 percent (+10,219 visitors) higher than in December 2012, owing to surges in visitors from Latin America, North America and Europe of, respectively, 9,435 (+33.0 percent), 619 (+1.2 percent) and 365 (+5.5 percent). The growth in the Latin American market was attributed mostly to an increase in arrivals from Venezuela (+7,601 visitors or +34.2 percent). The expansion in the North American market resulted from a rise in the number of visitors from the United States (+1,433 visitors or +3.2 percent), which was partially offset by a decline in arrivals from Canada (-814 visitors or -12.2 percent). The modest growth in the European market was due predominantly to increases in arrivals from England (+81 visitors or +36.3 percent), Italy (+79 visitors or +30.7 percent) and Germany (+39 visitors or +14.2 percent). The number of cruise visitors fell slightly by 274 (-0.3 percent) in December 2013, compared to the same month of the previous year. The number of ship calls increased to 50 in December 2013, up from 49 in December 2012.

In December 2013, total government revenue amounted to Afl. 124.7 million, Afl. 27.1 million higher than the same month of the previous year. This growth was largely brought about by an increase in non-tax revenue of Afl. 24.4 million. The rise in non-tax revenue was mostly associated with dividend distributions. In addition, tax revenue expanded by Afl. 2.6 million, predominantly related to upturns in income tax (+Afl. 4.2 million), turnover tax (B.B.O.) (+Afl. 1.4 million), foreign exchange tax (+Afl. 0.9 million), revenue from excises on tobacco (+Afl. 0.7 million) and land tax (+Afl. 0.7 million). These increases were partly counterbalanced by drops in wage tax, motor vehicle fees, and import duties of, respectively, Afl. 5.2 million, Afl. 1.5 million and Afl. 0.8 million. □

**Beauty**  
*On The Beach*

**Marina Capetta**  
*Better know as Mari*

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# Loyal Visitors to Aruba honored at Playa Linda



**PALM BEACH** - Rona and Steven Schmidt and Jerry and Joyce DeMarco were recently honored as Goodwill Ambassadors due to their 20th consecutive vis-

its to Aruba. Ms. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority conducted the ceremony held at the Playa Linda Resort. According to the cou-

ples, they love the island and the nice people. In the pictures are the happy honorees, ATA's rep Marouska Heyliger and Yvette Tromp of the Playa Linda. □



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## Mavs beat Knicks on Nowitzki's lucky-bounce jumper

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Dirk Nowitzki's 19-foot jumper bounced up and then fell in as time expired, giving the Dallas Mavericks a 110-108 victory over the New York Knicks on Monday night. NBA Capsules

The Mavericks blew an eight-point lead in the final 90 seconds, then pulled out their third straight victory.

Carmelo Anthony had 44 points and nine rebounds for the Knicks. He played strong defense on the Mavericks' final possession, but was left standing in disbelief long after the buzzer after Nowitzki's shot appeared to hit the backboard first, then the front rim, then bounced up before dropping.

Vince Carter scored 23 points and Monta Ellis had 22 for Dallas (35-23), which has won nine of 11 and is a season-best 12 games over .500.

Jose Calderon finished with 20 points, and Nowitzki had 15 for the Mavericks, who swept a three-game road trip and beat the Knicks for the 20th time in the last 25 meetings.

Tyson Chandler had 12 points and 12 rebounds against his former team, sparking the Knicks' comeback after they trailed 108-100 with 1:37 left. But New York (21-36) lost for the sixth time in seven games and fell a season-worst 15 games below .500.

**BUCKS 130, 76ERS 110**

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — O.J. Mayo made seven 3-point-



Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki works to get open before shooting the game-winning basket against New York Knicks' Carmelo Anthony (7) in the final seconds of an NBA basketball game Monday, Feb. 24, 2014, in New York. Dallas won 110-108.

Associated Press

ers and scored 25 points, Ersan Ilyasova added 20, and Milwaukee placed seven players in double figures in a rout of Philadelphia, which lost its 11th straight game.

Ramon Sessions had 16 points, Khris Middleton and Brandon Knight scored 15 each, and Giannis Antetokounmpo posted 13 for the Bucks (11-45), who own the NBA's worst record. John Henson chipped in 12 points for the Bucks, who had their highest scoring game of the season.

Philadelphia (15-42), which has the league's second worst record, has lost 21 of 24 and 10 straight at home. It is the club's longest skid since a 12-game losing streak during the 1996-97 season.

Thaddeus Young led the 76ers with 28 points, Michael Carter-Williams added 20, Tony Wroten had 19, and James Anderson scored 13.

The Bucks had lost two in a row, 21 of 24, and 10 straight on the road. Their last away victory was against the Los Angeles Lakers on Dec. 31, 2013.

Philadelphia trailed 73-44 at halftime, the most points the 76ers had allowed in any half this season.

**WARRIORS 104, PISTONS 96 AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP)**

— Stephen Curry had 19 points, nine assists and eight rebounds, and Golden State clamped down on Detroit in the second half of a victory.

Continued on Page 20

## Venezuelans in MLB have their minds back home

**AP Sports Writer**

Spring training is a time to get in shape for the upcoming major league season, work on mechanics or maybe compete for a spot on the team. For Miguel

Cabrera, Felix Hernandez, Elvis Andrus and many other Venezuelan players, it's an even more complicated mix. They have their minds thousands of miles away on civil unrest back

home. Political violence is blamed for at least eight deaths and more than 100 injuries since Feb. 12 in Venezuela, home to 63 players who were on opening day rosters at the beginning of

the 2013 season. Cabrera on Friday tweeted a photo with several teammates, including fellow Venezuelan and new Tigers infield coach Omar Vizquel, posing with two Venezu-

elan flags and messages in Spanish such as "#WE ARE YOUR VOICE VENEZUELA", "#FAR BUT NOT ABSENT" and "#SOSVENEZUELA".

Continued on Page 21



# Djokovic wins, Del Potro retires in Dubai

**SANDRA HARWITT**

**Associated Press**

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)** — Novak Djokovic opened the defense of his Dubai Championships title with a straight sets victory over Denis Istomin, while second-seeded Juan Martin del Potro had to retire from his first-round match on Tuesday.

Top-seeded Djokovic, who is making only his second appearance this year after reaching the quarterfinals of the Australian Open, was a 6-3, 6-3 winner over 54th-ranked Istomin of Uzbekistan.

"It wasn't as easy as the scoreline indicates," said Djokovic, who has won in Dubai on four occasions. "I needed to work for my games."

"Having not played for more than four, five weeks, an official match, obviously it takes its toll on the court." Djokovic saved all four break points he faced on serve and broke Istomin three times — in the third and ninth games of the first set and in the second game of the second set.

Del Potro was not so fortunate, being forced to retire against Somdev Devvarman of India after losing the first-set tiebreaker 7-6 (3).

Since winning the Sydney title last month, Del Potro has been struggling with a left wrist injury that has conjured up memories of similar pain he experienced in his right wrist four years ago. In 2010, the year after he won the U.S. Open, he played only three tournaments before and after surgery on his right wrist.

Del Potro was fighting back tears in Dubai when he came to talk to the media

after his retirement.

"I don't feel really well," he said. "My wrist is hurting a lot and everybody knows what happened to me four years ago with my other wrist."

"It was really tough to play today. I tried everything. I cannot be the player I would like to be."

Having felt the pain in his left wrist during the Australian Open, Del Potro went at the end of January to consult with Dr. Richard Berger, who performed his right wrist surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. The doctor recommended a course of physical therapy.

Asked if he would have kept playing if he won the first set, Del Potro said: "I don't think so, no. It was hurting too much."

Devvarman, a wild card who won a challenger in New Delhi last week, hit a service winner on his third set point in the tiebreaker. That proved to be the final point of the match.

"It's unfortunate, especially for a guy like him," Devvarman said.

"I realized he wasn't comfortable hitting backhands and I tried to make him hit as many as I could, and he wasn't really hitting over it so I knew he wasn't happy."

Third-seeded Tomas Berdych extended his winning streak to eight matches with a 6-3, 6-4 win over Romanian qualifier Marius Copil.

Berdych, who reached the final in Dubai last year, won the Rotterdam title two weeks ago.

Fifth-seeded Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France secured a 6-2, 6-4 win over Victor Hanesescu of Romania. □



Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns the ball to Denis Istomin of Uzbekistan during the second round of the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014. Associated Press

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# James expects to rejoin Heat lineup Thursday



Miami Heat forward LeBron James (6) dunks in front of Oklahoma City Thunder forward Serge Ibaka (9) during the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game in Oklahoma City, Thursday, Feb. 20, 2014.

**STEVEN WINE**

**AP Sports Writer**

**MIAMI (AP)** — LeBron James is taking part in non-contact drills and says he should be able to play on Thursday for the Miami Heat against the New York Knicks.

James missed Sunday's victory over the Chicago Bulls after breaking his nose in the previous game. On

Tuesday, he dispensed with the bandage he wore late last week and said his headaches have subsided. But he's not yet ready for contact drills and still in a little pain while the nose heals.

Sunday's game was only the second James has missed this season. The Heat improved to 2-0 without him, but he didn't enjoy

watching from the bench. "It was terrible," he said. "I was happy we got the win, but I hate sitting out."

He's not looking forward to wearing a mask, either. He has experience, because he broke his cheek while with the Cleveland Cavaliers 10 years ago and wore a mask then.

"It's a difficult challenge," James said. □

**Associated Press**



Philadelphia 76ers' Michael Carter-Williams looks on from the court after he tried to save the ball from going out of bounds during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Milwaukee Bucks, Monday, Feb. 24, 2014, in Philadelphia.

**Associated Press**

**Continued from Page 18**

Klay Thompson scored 19 points for Golden State, which has won four in a row. The Pistons have lost five of seven since firing Maurice Cheeks and replacing him with interim coach John Loyer.

The Warriors were still without David Lee, who has been dealing with a stomach flu. Andrew Bogut returned from a left shoulder injury and played 29 minutes before fouling out.

Greg Monroe had 23 points for the Pistons, who scored only 13 in the fourth quarter. The Pistons were down 63-62 at halftime but couldn't replicate that offensive success.

The Warriors, who began a six-game trip, have won six straight over the Pistons for the first time since a seven-

game streak from 1975-76. Golden State's reserves outscored Detroit's 42-15. The Warriors (35-22) are a season-high 13 games over .500.

**CLIPPERS 123, PELICANS 110**

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Jamal Crawford hit seven 3s on his way to 24 points, and the Los Angeles Clippers beat New Orleans.

Crawford picked up where he left off in Oklahoma City on Sunday, when he made five 3-pointers and finished with 36 points in Los Angeles' victory. Chris Paul had 19 points and 13 assists in his latest return to New Orleans, and Blake Griffin added 22 points. All five Clippers starters and two reserves scored in double figures. DeAndre Jordan had 14 points and 16 rebounds. Matt Barnes, Darren Collison and Hedo Turkoglu each scored 12.

Anthony Davis had 26 points and 11 rebounds for New Orleans. Alexis Ajinca had 19 points and 12 rebounds, both career highs.

**JAZZ 110, CELTICS 98**

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)** — Alec Burks had 21 points, and Derrick Favors scored 20 in his return from a hip injury to power Utah to a rare win over Boston, which lost its fifth straight game.

Favors had missed the previous three games because of a sprained right hip injury he aggravated in the opening moments against Philadelphia on Feb. 12. But the center established himself early with four baskets and bolstered Utah's leaky defense. □

## CAS confirms it cleared Campbell-Brown

**Associated Press**

**KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)**

— The Court of Arbitration for Sport confirmed Tuesday that it upheld an appeal by Jamaican sprinter Veronica Campbell-Brown and cleared the high-profile track star of any anti-doping rule violation.

In a statement, the Swiss-based court disclosed that it set aside earlier decisions by a doping review board of the International Association of Athletics Federations and a Jamaican disciplinary panel that were recommending a two-year suspension for the three-

time Olympic gold medalist. Campbell-Brown, who has won 16 Olympic and world championship medals, including two 200 meter Olympic golds, made international headlines in

**This is a Sunday, March 11, 2012 file photo of Jamaica's Veronica Campbell-Brown, right, as she crosses the finish line ahead of Ivory Coast's Murielle Ahoure, left, as Campbell Brown wins the gold medal in the Women's 60m race during the World Indoor Athletics Championships in Istanbul, Turkey.**

**Associated Press**

May when authorities with the Jamaica Athletics Administrative Association an-

nounced she had tested positive for a banned diuretic at a local meet. □







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## Venezuelans MLB

Continued from Page 18

"Supporting VENEZUELA from here," wrote the two-time AL MVP, born in the central city of Maracay, at the Detroit Tigers' camp in Lakeland, Fla.

Marlins pitcher Henderson Alvarez and several Miami teammates posed on Saturday with a Venezuela flag, holding signs with the word "Peace" in Spanish. The 23-year old right-hander said he brought his wife and 2-month-old daughter to Florida after the baby suffered respiratory problems because of tear gas thrown near their home in Caracas.

"My family in Valencia is fine. My daughter is the one who was affected," said Alvarez, who threw a no-hitter last season. "She was affected by tear gas twice. I sent for her yesterday, I brought her and my wife to Miami."

Valencia, in the northern Venezuelan state of Carabobo, is the hometown of a 22-year-old beauty queen who was slain this week during a political protest. Government opponents say her death was the result of indiscriminate violence used by President Nicolas Maduro and his supporters to stifle dissent across the country, while the government alleges she was shot by opposition protesters.

Maduro said Venezuelan players were under pressure from the U.S. and their teams to speak out against his government.

"This is just a lie they (the opposition) are telling the world," he said in a speech Saturday. "They've looked and paid for famous artists around the world to say and write these things, they've pressured Venezuelan major leaguers to show up in little photos saying

"SOSVenezuela."

"The major league team owners have pressured our boys," he said.

Andrus, Adrian Beltre and several Texas teammates posed Saturday with Venezuelan flags and signs at camp in Surprise, Ariz. The shortstop said it wasn't a political stand.

"As a fellow Venezuelan, it's the right thing for us to show the support to students to try to bring peace," he said. "I think in the end, it's all about being human beings. And when you're good human beings, you don't want people to get killed, get shot or what's happening right now."

"It's not like we're changing anything or trying to get into the political stuff or political area," he said. "At the end we're not trying to go to any side."

Pitchers Yu Darvish of Japan and Jose Contreras of Cuba joined Andrus and the Rangers in the picture.

"It means a lot, you can see the support that we have, not just from Venezuela ... the Dominican, and Mexico and Japan, see the support that we have from all those countries," Andrus said.

Hernandez, the Seattle ace, is from Valencia.

"I'm kind of worried because my family is over there," he said. "I just want peace. That's all I want, man. Venezuela is a little dangerous; I just want my family to be safe. That's all I want."

Hernandez said he is trying to get bring his mother to the United States.

"My mom is trying to figure out how she's going to get here," the 2010 AL Cy Young winner said at the Mariners' camp in Peoria, Ariz.



Texas Rangers baseball players pose for a photo in support of friends and family members of teammates in Venezuela including shortstop Elvis Andrus, front left, pitcher Yu Darvish, standing second from left, and third baseman Adrian Beltre, standing third from left, Saturday, Feb. 22, 2014, Surprise, Ariz.

Associated Press

Hernandez said it is "really scary" watching images on TV of the clashes between anti- and pro-government forces in the streets of Venezuela. Social media has helped players in Florida and Arizona keep up-to-date with news from home. "Watching the news here and on Twitter and Instagram, and watching the Spanish channels here," Hernandez said.

Red Sox pitcher Felix Doubront, another native of the state of Carabobo, has his wife and children in Fort Myers, Fla. He's concerned about his mother, father, sister and brother, who all remain in Venezuela, while trying to focus on his job in spring training.

"There's a lot of things I worry about, but there's nothing I can do, just to help my family and protect them from here," said the 26-year old left-hander. "Everybody's talking about Venezuela, but I don't

want to lose my focus here."

Chicago White Sox outfielder Avisail Garcia said his parents and sister are back home in Venezuela, and are far from the violence.

"But I worry about my country. Because a lot of people die," he said in Glendale, Ariz. "Hopefully everything gets better."

Washington catchers Wilson Ramos and Jose Lobaton are both from Venezuela. "We're working right now, but our minds are in Venezuela. It's hard for us to concentrate on what we have to do here, because all the families are over there," Ramos said at the Nationals' camp in Viera, Fla.

"My whole family is good right now. They're safe right now. But I call after practice every day and see how they are feeling, what they are doing," he said. "Every time, I say stay at

home, don't go out. Buy a lot of food and stay home. Everything you need, just go real quick to the supermarket and get it and go back home."

Said Lobaton: "I just worry about it. It's my country. I want to see Venezuela good."

"I talk to my family, they say Valencia is pretty bad. That's where I live. They say they've got to stay in the house, because outside you don't know what's going to happen," he said.

Andrus said he has two older brothers in Venezuela. He said he talks to them every day and that they're safe, but they've stayed inside with their families for a couple of days.

"As a human being, you always get angry when you see what's happening with the military back home doing stuff to the civils, and to the students, and that's what really gets me angry," he said. □



# Public Party Health

By: Dr. Carlos Viana

We are currently involved with a movement that is more than a harmless symbolic party in the streets. Anthropologists and Traditional Chinese Medical physicians know that people, as part of nature, are influenced by a surge of hormones that takes place in all animals this time of the year. Hormones, which if we do not learn to live with will have us, do things that we cannot understand.

Carnival is an annual spring celebration of life found in many countries of the world. By learning about carnival, we can learn more about accepting and understanding other cultures. Like anything in life, by understanding what is going on we can better take care of ourselves.

We can read about the ancient Roman festival in honor of Bacchus as the best historical account of what originally went on during spring rites. The historical record reads that a great number of converts gave in to the free flowing wine. The festivities existed for provoking or exciting lustful, erotic participation among the participants, including all sort of unrestrained self-indulgent sexual behavior.

Here in Aruba we have a saying that says, "What done while drunk does not count"; an unfortunate social excuse for not having to take responsibility for your actions. Several people partying in the streets will drink themselves



to the point of Alcohol Poisoning, which is an acute medical emergency. Passing out is not always just sleeping it off.

How can you tell if someone is about to become a victim of alcohol poisoning and if they are what can you do to help? The signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning is a person who is unconscious or semi-consciousness and has slow respiration (breaths) of eight or less per minute or lapses between breaths of more than eight seconds; often they will have cold, clammy, pale or bluish skin. In the event of alcohol poisoning, this will most likely be accompanied by a strong odor of alcohol.

If you encounter a person who exhibits one or more of the signs and symptoms, CALL 911. While waiting for help to arrive, gently turn the intoxicated person on his/her side and maintain that position by placing a pillow in the small of the person's back. This is important to prevent

aspiration (choking) should the person vomit. Stay with the person until medical help arrives. If a person appears to be "sleeping it off" it is important to realize that even though a person may be semi-conscious, alcohol already in the stomach may continue to enter the bloodstream and circulate throughout the body. The person's life may still be in danger. If you are having difficulty in determining whether an individual is acutely intoxicated, contact a first aid provider immediately—the victim cannot afford for you to guess.

With all this alcohol and dancing for many it equals sexual activity. The many underage girls who were impregnated last year during Carnival do have to live with the consequences, as do the "children of children." Besides pregnancies, unprotected sex provides the risk for sexually transmitted diseases. AIDS is still a major public health concern in spite of all the public education campaigns.

While you are partying in the streets, alcohol consumption, dancing and sun ads up to dehydration that has three stages of medical emergency. Dehydration sets in because the alcohol uses much body water and you are also losing much water through perspiration as your body tries to keep cool. Only water or apple juice will replenish your body's water reserves. Fruit juice or carbonated soft drinks do not help any to replenish your body's water. If no water

is consumed the dehydration leads to heat cramps where cramping of muscles of the abdomen, legs, and arms take place. People with heat cramps are pale, have moist clammy skin, and rapid shallow breathing. There is still time to cool off and drink water to help correct the problem. Unfortunately, if not addressed the last stage of dehydration is a life threatening heat stroke. A victim presents with red flushed skin. The person might or might not be sweating. Their pulse is rapid and as their temperature continues to rise above 105 F degrees they will appear disoriented and confused; before they lose consciousness; throwing water, beer, any cool liquid on them, to cool them down as quickly as possible helps. One afternoon of becoming dehydrated can take weeks to recover.

Do not forget your ears. Some of these music wagons have sound decibels well in the range that causes ear damage. Earplugs, especially for children are a good idea. In your Healthy Carnival Kit, many given out free by public health and local charities, sunscreen should also be included. You know what I think about all the drugs that will be available.

Get The Point! Dancing in the streets with togetherness of those around you can be fun. Leaving work and worries behind can be relaxing, and dancing is great exercise. Throughout the many weeks of festivities and after the party, we are here

to remind you to eat well, which may include at least a natural multi-vitamin or other supplementation for stress and energy. Be smart and use protection in this time of sexual liberation and above all, stay well hydrated. We are here to help you increase energy, control cravings, and recover safely and as quickly as possible.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: [www.vianaheal.com](http://www.vianaheal.com)

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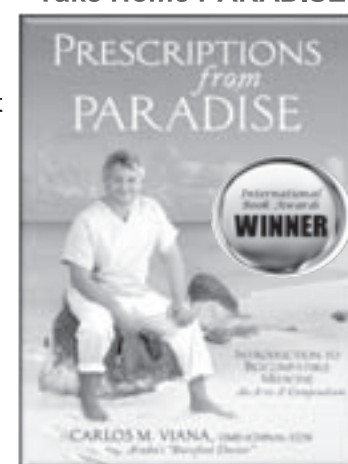
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# TiVo founders try to reprogram Internet video

**MICHAEL LIEDTKE**

**AP Technology Writer**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** —

The founders of DVR pioneer TiVo are shifting their focus from broadcast TV to broadband Internet as they introduce a new device designed to make it easier for people to find and manage video.

The sequel gets underway Tuesday with the release of the Qplay, a box that sorts and streams video clips compiled from all over the Internet. It's on sale for \$49 exclusively at <http://www.qplay.co>. The Qplay is controlled through an application that can be installed on an iPad or iPhone to select video separated into categories, or "Qs." All the video is stored in remote data centers so the line-up remains in sync even when a user switches from watching on a TV screen to viewing on an iPad or another device.

The Qplay's debut comes more than 15 years after former TiVo Inc. CEO Mike Ramsay and fellow company founder James Barton unveiled the first digital video recorder at a consumer electronics show. TiVo proved to be more versatile and convenient than video cassette recorders, encouraging millions of viewers to store TV shows so they could be watch the programs at their discretion instead of having the times dictated

to them. TiVo's DVRs also made it even quicker to skip through commercials. One of TiVo's first rivals in

figured out how to bring order to the jumble of video on the Internet.

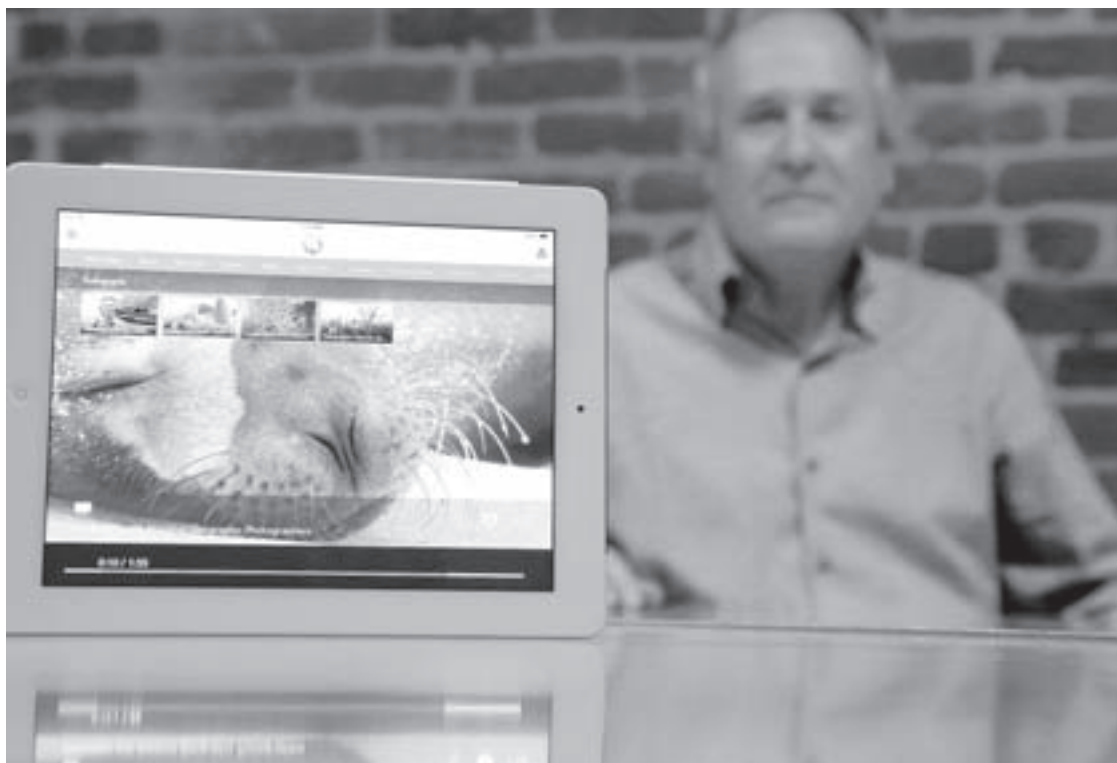
"If you look at the state of

this by working with an app that asks users for access to their accounts on Twitter, Facebook and You-

WiFi so an iPad can serve as a remote control to pick videos to show on a big screen. The videos will continue showing on a TV even when the iPad is in sleep mode to conserve the battery power. Users can also choose to watch the video on their tablets or phones. For now, Qplay is only compatible with Apple Inc.'s iOS software, but an application for Google's Android software is also in the works. The Qplay is also planning to add Netflix and other Internet video subscription services to the mix later this year.

Ramsay stepped down as TiVo's CEO in 2005 as the company struggled to grow after cable and satellite TV providers began making their own DVRs. TiVo sued many of the copycats for patent infringement and ended up winning lucrative licensing agreements after Ramsay's departure.

Barton left his long-time job as TiVo's chief technology officer in 2012, and reunited with Ramsay shortly after that departure. The two men launched InVioneer, a San Jose, California, startup that is changing its name to Qplay. The company has raised an undisclosed amount of money from two of Silicon Valley's top venture capital firms, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers and Redpoint Ventures. □



In this Friday, Feb. 21, 2014, photo, Mike Ramsay, CEO of Qplay, poses for photographs after giving a demonstration of Qplay on a tablet device in San Francisco.

Associated Press

the DVR industry, ReplayTV, was founded by Anthony Wood, who now runs a Silicon Valley company that makes the Roku box — a popular choice for streaming Internet video on television. The Qplay also will be competing against Apple TV, another streaming box, and Google Inc.'s Chromecast, a dongle-like device that sells for just \$35. After spending the past 18 months working on the Qplay, Ramsay and Barton are convinced they have

Internet video today, it's a mess," Ramsay said. "It used to be you had 500 channels on TV and nothing to watch. Now it seems like you have 500 apps on your tablet and you go from one app to the next as you search for something to watch."

The Qplay aims to become a vital video hub by offering its users a constantly changing mix of clips from dozens of websites. The device, which is about the size of an energy bar, does

Tube. Qplay then compiles all the video featured in links posted within their user feeds on Facebook and Twitter, as well as designated channels on YouTube. Those clips are then sorted into "Qs," such as news or extreme sports. Qplay users can also create their own specialty channels, such as curling if they've become enamored with the sport in the aftermath of the Winter Olympics in Russia.

The Qplay plugs into a TV's HDMI port and relies on

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# Stocks end lower after up-and-down day

**KEN SWEET**

**AP Markets Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — U.S. stocks were unable to find any momentum on Tuesday.

The market drifted between gains and losses throughout the day, then headed steadily lower in the last hour of trading. Investors found some solace

sales, but fortunately we expect that pent-up demand to return later this year," said Joseph Tanious, a global market strategist at J.P. Morgan Funds.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 27.48 points, or 0.2 percent, to 16,179.66. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 2.49 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,845.12 and

short due to the weather. The company said that at one time in January, 30 percent of its stores were closed because of inclement weather.

Home Depot had a similar story. The nation's largest home improvement retailer said profits fell 1 percent from a year ago, hampered by bad winter con-

Depot for missing analysts' sales expectations. Macy's rose \$3.19, or 6 percent, to \$56.25 and Home Depot closed up \$3.11, or 4 percent, to \$80.98.

Investors were less forgiving about a weak consumer confidence report. The Conference Board's index of consumer confidence fell to 78.1 in February from 80.7 the month before. That was below the 80.1 level economists polled by FactSet were expecting. The report is a closely watched indicator of how likely consumers are to spend money and keep the economy moving forward.

The confidence slump was the latest sign in the last several weeks that the recent bout of cold weather has slowed the economy. The regions that had the biggest declines in confidence were in the middle of the storm earlier in this month that brought snow from Atlanta to Boston.

"Perhaps (confidence) would have done slightly better had the weather been less dismal," economists at the investment bank RBS wrote in a note to investors.

Investors should expect more muddled days like this for the next few weeks, strategists say.

Fourth-quarter earnings reports are mostly over. With Home Depot's results now out, all 30 members of the Dow have released earnings for this quarter. By the end of the week, 486 out of the 500 members of the S&P 500 will have reported their results. □

## Analyst doubles price target, Tesla shares boosted

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Shares of Tesla Motors Inc. surged 16 percent Tuesday after a Wall Street analyst told investors that Tesla could shake up the electric utility sector as well as the auto industry.

Analyst Adam Jonas of Morgan Stanley wrote in a note to investors that Tesla could nearly double its share of the global car market by 2028.

And it also could create another lucrative business by building battery packs for energy storage. He doubled his target price for Tesla stock to \$320 per share from \$153.

Tesla shares rose \$34.65 to \$252.30 in midday trading. Tesla is expected this week to formally announce the building of a "Gigafactory" to produce batteries with Panasonic and other partners.

It would be the largest lithium-ion battery pack factory in the U.S.

Such batteries could be used at homes and businesses to store energy for times of peak electricity use.

Electric companies nationwide are switching to a system that charges people more for energy during peak hours, such as early evening, and batteries could cut those costs.

"If Tesla can become the world's low-cost producer in energy storage, we see significant optionality for Tesla to disrupt adjacent industries," Jonas wrote, adding that the electric energy storage business is worth \$2 trillion globally.

The factory would also cut the company's own battery costs, he wrote.

Tesla, led by billionaire Elon Musk, said last week it expects to deliver more than 35,000 of its Model S sedans this year, up 55 percent from last year as it expands in Europe and China. Musk said on an earnings conference call that Tesla plans to boost production to more than 1,000 cars per week from the current pace of 600 a week. □



Trader Stephen McSherry, left, and specialist John O'Hara work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. U.S. stocks were unable to find any momentum on Tuesday, drifting lower at the closing bell.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

in strong results from Home Depot and Macy's. The enthusiasm was not enough, however, to offset an unexpectedly steep decline in consumer confidence this month, due largely to bitter cold weather and winter storms that affected much of the country.

"The weather is having an impact on everything, from homes, vehicles to retail

the Nasdaq composite fell 5.38 points, or 0.1 percent, to 4,287.59.

Even the retailers, who have a tendency to blame the weather for poor results, had a valid point this time around.

Macy's reported an 11 percent rise in fourth-quarter income that handily beat analysts' expectations, but sales came up

ditions.

"We don't like to use weather as an excuse but we think we probably lost \$100 million in the month of January," Home Depot's chief financial officer, Carol Tome, said in a conference call with investors. "Atlanta was frozen, for example. It was tough here."

Investors were able to forgive Macy's and Home

# Macy's 4Q profit up 11%; misses forecasts

**ANNE D'INNOCENZIO**

**AP Retail Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Macy's Inc. reported an 11 percent increase in fourth-quarter profit, but its results missed Wall Street expectations as a string of winter storms chilled sales in January.

The results, released Tuesday, come on the heels of a solid holiday shopping season the Cincinnati-based retailer, which operates more than 840 Macy's

and Bloomingdale's stores. The department-store chain has been a standout among its peers throughout the economic recovery as it has benefited from its moves to tailor merchandise to local markets.

But like other retailers, severe winter storms have caused Macy's to close stores and also kept shoppers at home. At one time during January, 244 Macy's and Bloomingdale's stores

were shut down because of the weather, and business remained sluggish until Valentine's Day, Macy's Chairman, President and CEO Terry Lundgren said in a statement.

Macy's is still sticking with its annual profit and sales forecast, issued earlier last month, on hopes that business will bounce back in the spring.

"Once warm spring weather arrives and our full as-

sortment of fresh spring merchandise is in place, we believe customers will return to a more normalized pattern of shopping," he said.

The department store chain said it earned \$811 million, or \$2.16 per share, in the three months that ended Feb. 1. That compares with \$730 million, or \$1.83 per share, a year earlier.

Revenue slipped 1.6 percent to \$9.2 billion. □



# Home Depot 4Q mixed, boosts quarterly dividend

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Home Depot's fiscal fourth-quarter net income dipped 1 percent, hampered by bad winter weather and one less week in the period than a year ago.

Still, cost cuts helped earnings top Wall Street's view, and the No. 1 home improvement retailer raised its quarterly dividend by 21 percent. Shares rose more than 2 percent in early trading.

The U.S. housing market has emerged from a deep slump, aided by rising home prices, steady job growth and fewer troubled loans dating back to the housing-bubble days. That has spurred customers to spend more to renovate their homes.

But some believe that the combination of anticipated higher interest rates, continued dampened availability of mortgages, and price increases for new homes from 2013 will tamp down housing demand this year. And that in turn might slow down spending on homes.

Home Depot Inc. earned \$1.01 billion, or 73 cents per share, for the three months ended Feb. 2. That compares with \$1.02 billion, or

68 cents per share, a year earlier. There were fewer shares outstanding in the latest quarter.

Analysts polled by FactSet expected earnings of 71

Home Depot said that fourth-quarter sales at stores open at least a year rose 4.4 percent. For stores in the U.S., the figure increased 4.9 percent.

Revenue climbed 5 percent to \$78.81 billion from \$74.75 billion. Home Depot also announced Tuesday that it is increasing its quarterly dividend to 47 cents per

share, this implies approximately \$82.6 billion. Analysts forecast full-year earnings of \$4.42 per share on revenue of \$82.85 billion. Home Depot's smaller rival Lowe's Cos. reports its quarterly results on Wednesday. Shares of Home Depot rose \$1.97, or 2.5 percent, to \$79.84 in early morning trading. Its shares have risen almost 25 percent over the past year. □



A person walks toward a Home Depot in Nashville, Tenn. Home Depot Inc. reported mixed quarterly financial results before the market opened on Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014.

(AP Photo/Mark Humphrey)

cents per share.

Revenue for the Atlanta company fell 3 percent to \$17.7 million from \$18.25 billion, hurt by one less week in the latest quarter. Stripping out the extra week from the prior-year period, revenue rose 3.9 percent in the latest quarter.

Wall Street predicted revenue of \$17.92 billion.

This metric is a key indicator of a retailer's health because it excludes results from stores recently opened or closed.

Full-year net income rose to \$5.39 billion, or \$3.76 per share, from \$4.54 billion, or \$3 per share, in the previous year. Annual revenue

share from 39 cents per share. The dividend will be paid on March 27 to shareholders of record on March 13. Looking ahead, the retailer anticipates fiscal 2014 earnings of \$4.38 per share. Revenue is expected to rise by about 4.8 percent. Based on 2013's

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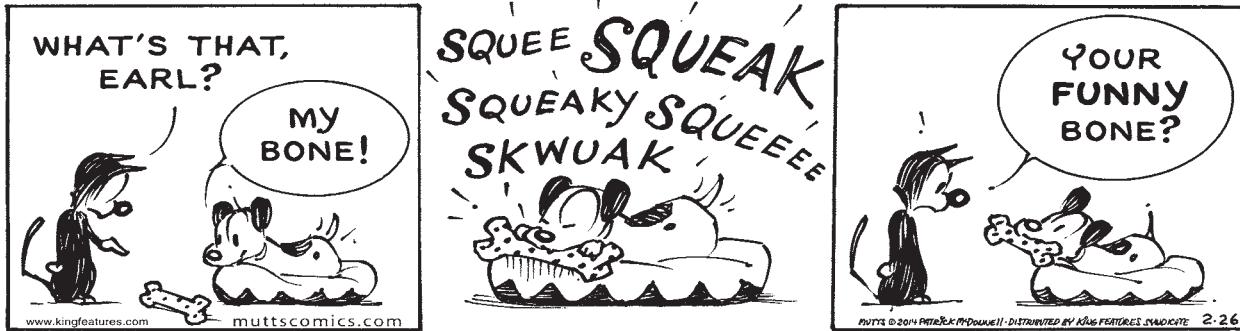
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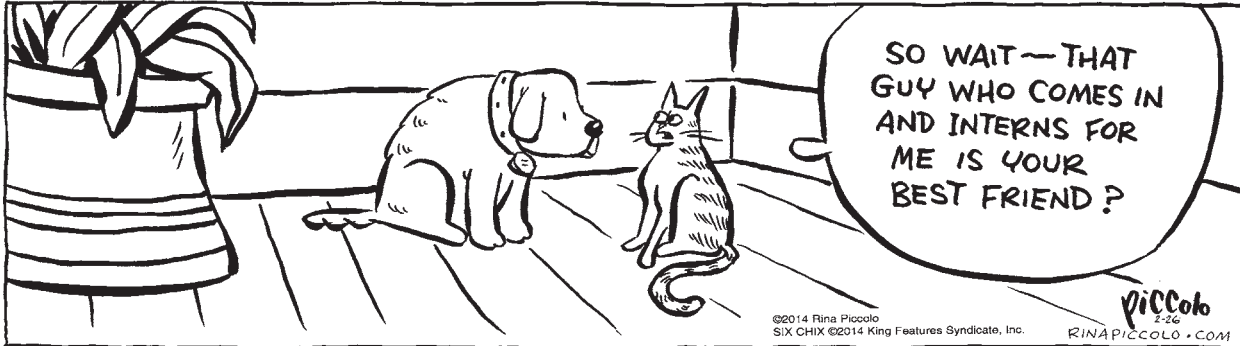
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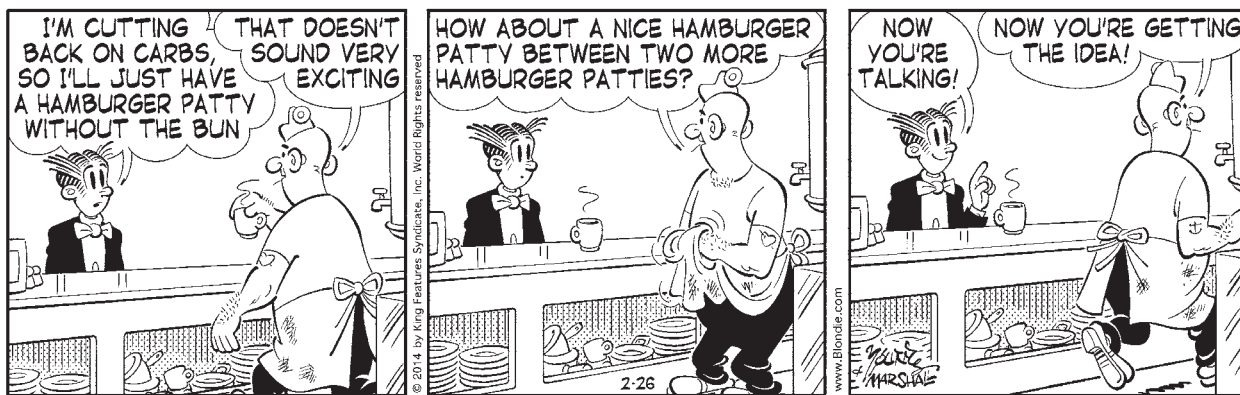
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6 Chix



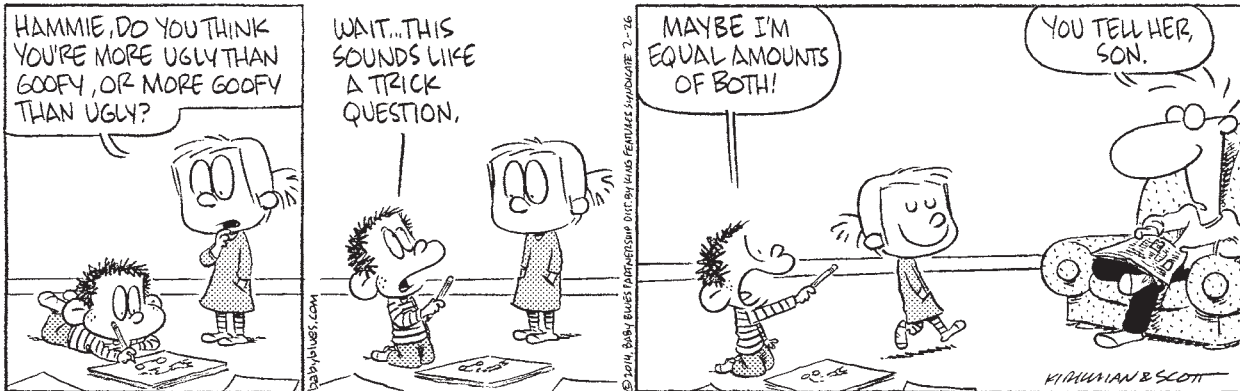
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		8	2	7	9	6		
	6						5	
4				6				9
6				1				3
8	2			3	5	4		7
7								1
2								5
	1			5			4	
		7	3	8	6	1		

Difficulty Level ★★★

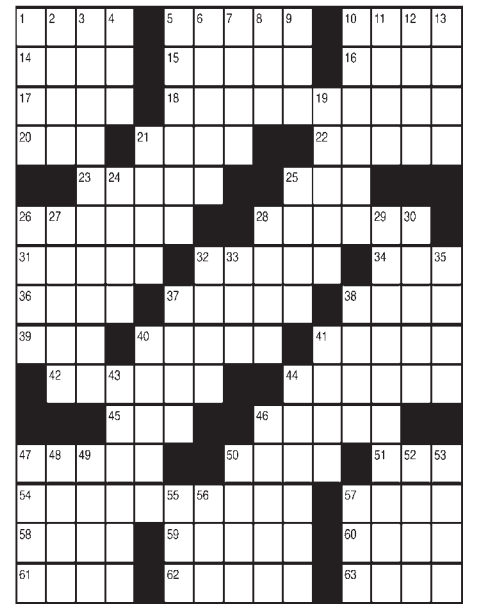
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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

4	8	3	5	2	6	1	9	7
5	1	9	7	3	8	4	6	2
6	7	2	1	9	4	8	3	5
1	6	7	4	8	5	3	2	9
9	3	8	6	1	2	7	5	4
2	5	4	9	7	3	6	8	1
8	2	1	3	4	9	5	7	6
3	4	5	2	6	7	9	1	8
7	9	6	8	5	1	2	4	3

ACROSS

- 1 Fair; equitable
- 5 Last
- 10 Celebration
- 14 Reaction to poison ivy
- 15 Make amends
- 16 "...not a creature was stirring, not a mouse..."
- 17 Female horse
- 18 Plan and direct
- 20 That woman
- 21 Sneaky
- 22 Stops
- 23 Complaining in a childish way
- 25 Lubricate
- 26 Alabama city
- 28 Ore seekers
- 31 Military schools and other institutes: abbr.
- 32 Spinnet or grand
- 34 Lamb's mother
- 36 Story
- 37 Newspaper stand, often
- 38 Tearful request
- 39 Perpendicular building wing
- 40 Helsinki natives
- 41 Whole bread
- 42 \_\_\_ as hen's teeth
- 44 Uses an ink-jet machine
- 45 Noah's boat
- 46 Brag
- 47 Foolish
- 50 Swallow hard
- 51 Dieter's concerns: abbr.
- 54 Sounds familiar
- 57 Ooze out
- 58 Leg joint
- 59 Actress Hope
- 60 Consumer
- 61 Stitches
- 62 Liberated
- 63 Catch sight of



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/26/14

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

USSR	SLACK	ARMS
SALE	HELEN	REAL
EVAS	AGILE	MALI
REMINDS	LABORED	
	DIE	NADIR
LATEX	POR	DEALS
AWES	AAM	MEDDLE
BAR	INCITES	MAN
ERRAND	NOW	LIMO
LEASE	SEE	SITAR
	SPREE	GAB
JUPITER	PATELLA	
ACES	SEALS	RYES
CLOT	ENSUE	TRAP
KANS	TEAMS	YENS

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2/26/14

DOWN

- 1 Croce and Belushi

- 2 "Beehive State"
- 3 Nutty people
- 4 Definite article
- 5 Widespread scarcity of food
- 6 Milan's nation
- 7 Too inquisitive
- 8 Crawling bug
- 9 Actor Majors
- 10 Girl or woman
- 11 Wicked
- 12 Camp shelter
- 13 Make \_\_\_ meet; get by
- 19 Horned animal, for short
- 21 Actor Wheaton and others
- 24 Cover up
- 25 Cry from a sty
- 26 Spouse
- 27 City in Florida
- 28 Church service
- 29 Continuous; persistent
- 30 Perspiration
- 32 Forest tree
- 33 Charged atom
- 35 Dines

- 37 Cameron or Douglas
- 38 Greek letters
- 40 Payments from passengers
- 41 Coat or shawl
- 43 Stoves
- 44 Surveyed voters
- 46 Jut out
- 47 Annoys
- 48 Largest digit
- 49 Afresh
- 50 Autry or Kelly
- 52 Toot the horn
- 53 Lively; agile
- 55 Sitcom alien
- 56 Tavern
- 57 Take to court



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201406

**STOP**  
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## Study: MERS virus infecting camels since 1992



In this Dec. 25, 2010 file photo, a festival official touches the lip of a young expensive Majahim, dark-skinned originally from Najd, Saudi Arabia, camel during the final day of Mazayin Dhafra Camel Festival in outskirts of Zayed City about 120 kms south west of Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Associated Press

**MARIA CHENG**  
**AP Medical Writer**  
**LONDON (AP)** — Scientists say the mysterious MERS virus has been infecting camels in Saudi Arabia for at least two decades, and early human cases probably went undiagnosed. Since the Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus was first identified in 2012, doctors have struggled to explain how many patients have fallen sick. MERS can cause symptoms including fever, breathing problems and kidney failure. To date, it has infected more than 180 people and killed 79, mostly in the Middle East, though infections have also spread to Europe and northern Africa. The virus is related to SARS, which killed about 800 people in a global 2003 outbreak. Camels or bats

have been suspected as being possible animal reservoirs of MERS but there has been little hard evidence. In a new paper, researchers took archived blood samples dating back to 1992 from more than 260 camels in Saudi Arabia. They found traces of MERS or a similar virus in samples from the early 1990s to 2010. They also analyzed random samples from about 200 camels, 36 goats and 112 sheep taken in Saudi Arabia last year. Of those, nearly 75 percent of the camels had antibodies to MERS. The researchers found genetic sequences of MERS from camels matched those found in humans. "It's very plausible that camels are infecting humans, but this study still doesn't tell us exactly how that is happening," said Gregory Hartl, a spokesman for the World Health Organization, which wasn't involved in the study. "We don't know what the high-risk behavior is that is needed for the virus to jump from camels to humans," he said. Ian Lipkin of Columbia University, who led the research, said MERS ap-

pears to have stayed relatively stable since 1992 and guessed that some human cases went unnoticed since the disease is rare and hard to spot without advanced laboratory testing. The paper was published online Tuesday in mBio, the journal of the American Society for Microbiology. Still, Lipkin warned MERS could still evolve into a form that spreads more easily among people and advised public health officials to take preventive measures in the Middle East, where camels are commonly kept for meat, for racing and as pets. "We could begin screening camels for the infection and quarantining them, similar to what's done for foot-and-mouth disease," he said. Lipkin added more research is needed on how precisely people are picking up the virus, whether from camels directly or from a contaminated product in the environment. But he said some things can be done to curb infections — for example, avoiding the noses and mouths of camels, where the greatest amount of MERS virus seems to be found. □

201432

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# Academy president Cheryl Boone Isaacs' game change

JESSICA HERNDON

AP Film Writer

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) —

When Bette Davis became the first female president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in 1941, it's believed she was met with such opposition by the predominantly male organization that she resigned after two months. The motion picture academy has seen only two other women in the top post since then: writer-producer Fay Kanin in 1979 and now film executive Cheryl Boone Isaacs, who has also become the organization's first black president.

Seven months into her new position, Isaacs is still adjusting to the excitement of her appointment and the weight it has within the film community.

"It's different being a minority in a majority space," said Isaacs in her office at the Beverly Hills headquarters of the academy, long known as being predominantly white, male and over 50.

A poster of Oscar Micheaux's 1931 film "The Exile" hangs on the red accent wall across from her desk.

The words "Mighty Modern All Talking Epic of Negro Life" are emblazoned across the top of the placard. "My parent's favorite phrase was 'Just get above



In this Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2014 photo, Cheryl Boone Isaacs, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, poses for a portrait in her office in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

it" and I must say that I have to put that into practice here," she said. "But it doesn't stop your personal self-doubts."

As the face now representing the 6,100-member academy, Isaacs knows there's a lot riding on her decisions and responses. "I really try to get to the reality of a situation and have a conversation with myself and ask 'Are you being reactive? Are you being defensive?'" said the 64-year-old, who became a member of the academy in 1988 after launching her career as a publicist at Columbia Pictures in 1977.

"There are things you can't

do," she added. "You can't get angry because then you are just an angry black woman.

As women we do have that and then being a minority, there is this extra layer."

As a teenager growing up in western Massachusetts in the 1960s, Isaacs looked up to her older brother Ashley, who worked as an advertising and publicity executive at United Artists in New York.

"He was hip and would come home with 16 mm films and screen them in the dining room," she recalled, citing her brother, who died of cancer in 1994, as fostering her love of film.

When Ashley moved to Los Angeles, Isaacs followed.

"I was living in San Francisco working as a stewardess for Pan American and I needed to get serious," recalled the Whittier College graduate. "I knocked on doors and started at Columbia."

In 1984, she became the director of publicity at Paramount Pictures and in 1997 she transitioned to New Line Cinema, becoming the studio's first black president of theatrical marketing.

"The thing I like most is strategy," said Isaacs, who ran the publicity campaigns for "Forrest Gump," "Braveheart" and "Rush Hour."

"At New Line, I was involved with filmmakers that were diverse and it really gave a nice perspective."

Diversity is at the heart of how she'll make her mark at the academy. "I am active in our member engagement and am seeking diverse talent domestically as well as internationally," said Isaacs, who was recently inducted into the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Hall of Fame. She also plans to boost the academy's mentoring programs, the student academy awards and the scientific and technical council.

"Having Cheryl as president shows that the opportunities are widening," says Cori Murray, Essence magazine's entertainment director. Essence will honor Isaacs with the trailblazer award at the annual Women in Hollywood Luncheon on Feb. 27.

"She is an inspiration," added Murray.

Lately, the film world has seen growing diversity within its ranks, from the 2013 appointment of the first black and openly gay president of the Directors Guild, to the many artists of color up for Oscars this season.

"When we get a chance to participate we do really well," said Isaacs.

"This year is going to show that." □

## 5 classic comedies Harold Ramis helped create

NEW YORK (AP) — You may not know his name or remember his face, but you have surely heard of at least some of the movies that Harold Ramis directed, helped write or appeared in. Here are five smash comedies created in part by Ramis, who died Monday at age 69:

— "Animal House": Fond of quoting from this all-time frat house favorite? Chances are you're quoting at least something written by Ramis, who worked on the screenplay with Douglas Kenney and Chris Miller.

— "Caddyshack": Another

classic that fans can recite from memory.

Give Ramis a lot of the credit. He was the director and collaborated on the script with Kenney and Brian Doyle-Murray for this comic showcase for Rodney Dangerfield, Ted Knight, Chevy Chase and Ramis' pal Bill Murray as Carl Spackler, golf's most dangerous groundskeeper.

— "Ghostbusters": He was Dr. Egon Spengler, the quiet Ghostbuster alongside Dan Aykroyd and Bill Murray in one of the biggest hits of the 1980s. He also wrote the screenplay

along with Aykroyd and an uncredited Rick Moranis.

— "Stripes": Another high point for Murray watchers, with Ramis co-starring as a fellow military recruit and assisting on the script.

— "Groundhog Day": This unforgettable comedy about a weatherman who lives through the same day over and over was a breakthrough for Murray as an actor and stands 20 years later as a pop culture fixture. And Ramis, once again, helped make it happen. He directed and co-wrote the script with Danny Rubin. □



In an undated file photo, Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, center, and Harold Ramis, right, appear in a scene from the 1984 movie "Ghostbusters". Harold Ramis died early Monday, Feb. 24, 2014, in Chicago from complications of autoimmune inflammatory disease, according to Fred Toczek, an attorney for Ramis. He was 69.

Associated Press



## Audra McDonald coming back to Broadway as Lady Day

**MARK KENNEDY**  
AP Drama Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Audra McDonald will return to Broadway this spring singing the blues as Billie Holiday.

Producers said Tuesday that the five-time Tony Award-winner will star in Lanie Robertson's "Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill," a musical that imagines one of Holiday's last performances in 1959.

Previews begin March 25 at the Circle in the Square Theatre and opening night is set for April 13. The venue will allow some lucky members of the audience to sit at tables onstage.

Her new show, to be directed by Lonny Price, puts an ailing Holiday in a small club in Philadelphia and lets McDonald sing such timeless classics as "Somebody's On My Mind," "Don't Explain" and "Strange Fruit."

McDonald spent four seasons on TV's "Private Practice" and won her fifth Tony Award for "The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess." She won raves as Mother Superior in the recent live NBC special



June 10, 2012 file photo shows Audra McDonald backstage with her award for best actress in a musical for her role in "The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess" at the 66th annual Tony Awards in New York.

Associated Press

"The Sound of Music" with Carrie Underwood. She released her fifth solo album, "Go Back Home," last summer.

She won three Tony Awards before the age of 30 — for "Carousel," "Master Class" and "Ragtime" — a fourth in 2004 for "A Raisin in the Sun" and a fifth for "The Gershwins' Porgy and

Bess." She also has two Grammy Awards.

McDonald's Emmy nominations were earned in the HBO version of "Wit" in 2001 and for reprising her Broadway role in "A Raisin in the Sun" in a 2008 made-for-TV adaptation.

The Holiday musical will be produced by Jeffrey Richards and Jerry Frankel. □

## Gamble and Huff to be honored at Songwriters Hall

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Writing duo Gamble and Huff will receive the Johnny Mercer award at the Songwriters Hall of Fame ceremony.

The organization announced Tuesday that Kenneth Gamble and Leon Huff will be honored with the top prize June 12 in New York City. Elton John and Bernie Taupin earned the honor last year.

Philadelphia-based Gamble and Huff have written and produced many hits, including Harold Melvin & the Blue Notes' "If You Don't Know Me by Now" and the O'Jays' "Love Train." They also wrote the "Soul Train" theme song, "TSOP (The Sound of Philadelphia)." The duo was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1995.



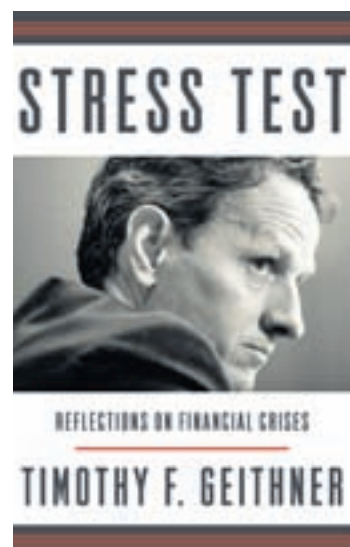
In this Nov. 17, 2010, file photo, Kenny Gamble, right, and Leon Huff pose for a photo during a street naming ceremony, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

Ray Davies, Donovan and songwriters Jim Weatherly, Graham Gouldman and

Mark James make up the 2014 Songwriters Hall of Fame class. □

## Geithner memoir to be called 'Stress Test'



This book cover image released by Crown shows "Stress Test: Reflections on Financial Crises," by Timothy F. Geithner. Former U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner's memoir will be released on May 13.

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Former U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner's memoir

has a title, "Stress Test," and a release date, May 13.

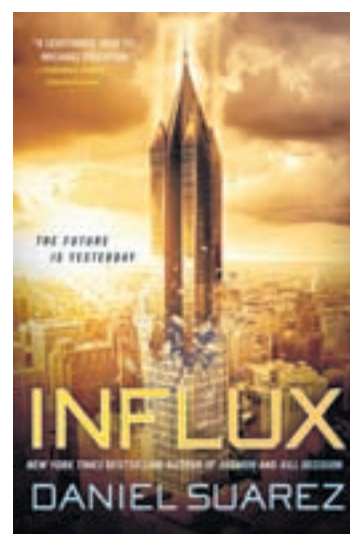
Geithner signed with Crown Publishers last year for a book about his handling of the financial crisis while in the Obama administration and, before that, at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The title was announced Tuesday by Crown. It refers to the reviews that financial institutions undergo to determine how they would cope with economic adversity.

The 52-year-old Geithner headed the Treasury throughout President Barack Obama's first term and stepped down in early 2013. Next week, he will join the private equity firm Warburg Pincus as president and managing director.

Crown is an imprint of Penguin Random House. □

## 'Influx' is thought-provoking novel



This book cover image released by Dutton shows "Influx," by Daniel Suarez.

Associated Press

**JEFF AYERS**

Associated Press

"Influx" by Daniel Suarez, (Dutton)

Imagine a world where scientific breakthroughs are kept under lock and key. This is the terrifying scenario in Daniel Suarez's innovative and thought-provoking new novel, "Influx."

Physicist Jon Grady and his team create a device that can reflect gravity. This device could greatly benefit

transportation, space and the construction industry. Grady hopes to win the Nobel Prize, but his lab is locked down and his data is destroyed by an organization called the Bureau of Technology Control. Grady receives an offer to work with the bureau to further his research — but not for mankind's benefit. When he refuses, he is transferred to a high-tech prison. His cell and everything inside are designed to break him down until he reveals how he developed his device and becomes subservient to the bureau. Grady must figure out how to escape an escape-proof prison — and defeat a group of highly advanced people with technology that's decades beyond what is imaginable. Suarez raises an intriguing question: What if science has advanced beyond what we know and that knowledge has been hidden from the public? "Influx" is a terrific reading experience, and an intriguing discussion is sure to follow. □



## Fake Putin Diary!



**DAVID BROOKS**  
© 2014 New York Times  
Dear Diary,

I am surrounded by idiots. I create the greatest Olympics in human history. The Russian team I selected wins the medal count. I do all this while propping up Assad in Syria and sexting half the athletes in the Olympic Village. Meanwhile, that fool Yanukovich can't even manage to keep himself in power in Kiev.

Why is it that every autocrat but me is always a day late and a dollar short? They try to be a little nice and a little nasty and they end up outraging everybody while intimidating nobody. Yanukovich was ridiculous with his zoo and his rare goats. His son the dentist won 50 percent of all the government contracts issued last January. People like that give kleptocracy a bad name.

That yutz has created two giant vulnerabilities for me, a regional one and a domestic one. My entire worldview is based on the idea that societies exist in one of two states: centralized control or terrorism and chaos. My life project has been to impose top-down order so Russia can return to its former grandeur.

Regionally, that's meant re-constituting the Russian empire with a Eurasian Union. Domestically, it's meant restoring the legitimacy of autocratic rule.

The bandits in Ukraine have suddenly called both into question. With no Ukraine in my orbit, I've got no empire. I've got no Eurasian project. Meanwhile, it wasn't nice to see an autocrat get toppled just next door. It sets a bad example for the children (my subjects).

Suddenly, I find myself in a moment of extreme vulnerability. Fortunately, I've got one of the greatest leaders in human history on my side: myself.

Machiavelli was right. Fortune is a woman; only the audacious win her love. That's why my technique has always been to create facts on the ground. Act first, while everyone else dithers. Force them to react to my reality. That's why I alone am Mr. Big on the world stage. Heroes drive history, and I will not be ignored!

The naïve Westerners (forgive the redundancy) think Ukraine is about democratic ideals, or whether the country will turn West or East. Please. There is

no room for ideals in my worldview. People are motivated by money and fear.

First, I'm going to evict the Westerners from Ukraine. I liked it better when the West conquered countries with the 82nd Airborne; now they just use the IMF. Fortunately, as one expert put it, they always bring a baguette to a knife fight. The West will not actually spend the money necessary to keep Ukraine out of bankruptcy. They won't want to hand it over to corrupt officials who will immediately ship it to London.

I'll just outbid them. Ukraine is out of money, and countries with no money have no choices. They are going to have to put themselves up for sale, and I've shown I'm willing to pay a higher price.

Moreover, the country has the same politico-economic system as Mother Russia. Something like 80 percent of the economy is controlled by the oligarchs. If the current oligarchs don't do what I want, I just replace them with some nice Russian ones. Some politicians are good at organizing coalitions. I'm good at organizing corruption.

Then I'll insinuate myself and manipulate electoral reform law. I can squeeze them with oil and gas supplies. I'm already enlisting Russian troops to preserve the Crimea. If the country threatens to split up, there's always the Georgia solution. Send in the troops. The West won't like it, but what will they do? If they try to hurt me, I'll stop cooperating on Syria, Iran and the places that really matter to them.

Dealing with my domestic vulnerability just takes a little productive paranoia. I've already shut down civil society step by step. I've even banned independent pollsters and persecuted officials who fought corruption. (Yes, that's right. I've made honesty a crime.) Recent events call for another round of crackdowns. Will my crackdown spark a violent reaction I can't now anticipate? In less deft hands that might happen, but, remember, I am me.

It's easy to govern when you've got the winds of history at your back. I've got the wolves of chaos growling in my face. Capital flight is accelerating. The ruble is devaluing. Social media, the youth culture, the tides of mass protest, democracy and capitalism undermine the authoritarian mindset.

Yet I impose my will with the beauty of gold and the wisdom of sapphire. I don't "evolve," as everybody suggests. Evolution leads to chaos. I learned that from Gorbys! The events of the 1990s gave the world one narrative, the Velvet Revolution narrative. But I'm going to teach another narrative: that what begins with people massing in a city square ends with a strongman triumphing in a palace. In my own way, I will define this age. □



## How to Get a Job at Google



**THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN**  
© 2014 New York Times

**MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif.** - Last June, in an interview with Adam Bryant of The New York Times, Laszlo Bock, the senior vice president of people operations for Google - i.e., the guy in charge of hiring for one of the world's most successful companies - noted that Google had determined that "GPAs are worthless as a criteria for hiring, and test scores are worthless. ... We found that they don't predict anything." He also noted that the "proportion of people without any college education at Google has increased over time" - now as high as 14 percent on some teams. At a time when many people are asking, "How's my kid gonna get a job?" I thought it would be useful to visit Google and hear how Bock would answer.

Don't get him wrong, Bock begins, "Good grades certainly don't hurt." Many jobs at Google require math, computing and coding skills, so if your good grades truly reflect skills in those areas that you can apply, it would be an advantage. But Google has its eyes on much more.

"There are five hiring attributes we have across the company," explained Bock. "If it's a technical role, we assess your coding ability, and half the roles in the company are technical roles. For every job, though, the No. 1 thing we look for is general cognitive ability, and it's not IQ. It's learning ability. It's the ability to process on the fly. It's the ability to pull together disparate bits of information. We assess that using structured behavioral interviews that we validate to make sure they're predictive."

The second, he added, "is

leadership - in particular emergent leadership as opposed to traditional leadership. Traditional leadership is, were you president of the chess club? Were you vice president of sales? How quickly did you get there? We don't care. What we care about is, when faced with a problem and you're a member of a team, do you, at the appropriate time, step in and lead. And just as critically, do you step back and stop leading, do you let someone else? Because what's critical to be an effective leader in this environment is you have to be willing to relinquish power."

What else? Humility and ownership. "It's feeling the sense of responsibility, the sense of ownership, to step in," he said, to try to solve any problem - and the humility to step back and embrace the better ideas of others. "Your end goal," explained Bock, "is what can we do together to problem-solve. I've contributed my piece, and then I step back."

And it is not just humility in creating space for others to contribute, says Bock, it's "intellectual humility. Without humility, you are unable to learn." It is why research shows that many graduates from hotshot business schools plateau. "Successful bright people rarely experience failure, and so they don't learn how to learn from that failure," Bock said.

"They, instead, commit the fundamental attribution error, which is if something good happens, it's because I'm a genius. If something bad happens, it's because someone's an idiot or I didn't get the resources or the market moved. ... What we've seen is that the people who are the most successful here, who we want to hire, will have a fierce position. They'll argue like hell. They'll be zealots about their point of view. But then you say, 'here's a new fact,' and they'll go, 'Oh, well, that changes things; you're right.'" You need a big ego and small ego in the same person at the same time.

The least important attribute they look for is "expertise." Said

Bock: "If you take somebody who has high cognitive ability, is innately curious, willing to learn and has emergent leadership skills, and you hire them as an HR person or finance person, and they have no content knowledge, and you compare them with someone who's been doing just one thing and is a world expert, the expert will go: 'I've seen this 100 times before; here's what you do.'" Most of the time the nonexpert will come up with the same answer, added Bock, "because most of the time it's not that hard." Sure, once in a while they will mess it up, he said, but once in a while they'll also come up with an answer that is totally new. And there is huge value in that.

To sum up Bock's approach to hiring: Talent can come in so many different forms and be built in so many nontraditional ways today, hiring officers have to be alive to every one - besides brand-name colleges. Because "when you look at people who don't go to school and make their way in the world, those are exceptional human beings. And we should do everything we can to find those people." Too many colleges, he added, "don't deliver on what they promise. You generate a ton of debt, you don't learn the most useful things for your life. It's [just] an extended adolescence."

Google attracts so much talent it can afford to look beyond traditional metrics, like GPA. For most young people, though, going to college and doing well is still the best way to master the tools needed for many careers. But Bock is saying something important to them, too: Beware. Your degree is not a proxy for your ability to do any job. The world only cares about - and pays off on - what you can do with what you know (and it doesn't care how you learned it). And in an age when innovation is increasingly a group endeavor, it also cares about a lot of soft skills - leadership, humility, collaboration, adaptability and loving to learn and re-learn. This will be true no matter where you go to work. □



## TORONTO'S ETHNIC BUFFET

FRANCINE PROSE

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When I tell my friends in Toronto how much I love their city, they often say, "Really?" I always assume they imagine I'm just trying to be gracious, or perhaps - with characteristic Canadian modesty - they're reluctant to acknowledge how easy their city is to love. But they also have a great deal of justifiable civic pride, and a clear sense of why Toronto is such a special and unusual place to live and visit. There's more to this understated city than many people might realize.

It's a great walking town, and part of what makes it so much fun to explore is the range and variety of the neighborhoods in which the city takes pride, and which have resisted the homogenization that has occurred throughout so much of New York City - from Yorkville, with its fashionable shops and department stores, to Old Town, where you can find the St. Lawrence Market, an immense covered structure offering a huge selection of foods and crafts, and where, on Saturdays, local farmers sell their produce. Some

of the neighborhoods are known for their architectural beauty: the charming Victorian houses along the tree-lined streets of Cabbagetown, originally a working-class Irish enclave; the equally attractive brick mansions and neo-Gothic cottages of the Annex, a district of artists, professors and students who attend the nearby University of Toronto; the brick rowhouses and manicured lawns of Roncesvalles and the mansions of Forest Hill. But when Toronto natives talk about their neighborhoods, or when I rave on about the areas in which I most like to spend time, we're more often referring to those places populated by a particular immigrant group, or districts in which very different populations live side by side. In Kensington Market, one of the city's most diverse and fascinating places, this mixture is humorously reflected in the name of a Jamaican-Italian restaurant: Rasta Pasta.

In fact, Kensington Market - within walking distance of the entertainment and business districts and close to most of Toronto's major hotels - is



Jationder Pal Singh sells fabrics at his shop, Chandan Fashion and Boutique, in the Little India neighborhood of Toronto, Feb. 15, 2014. Few cities in North America both celebrate and preserve their multicultural identity quite like Toronto, and the diversity of food and shopping options help make it a great walking town.

(Ian Willms/The New York Times)

a prime illustration of how Toronto ticks.

Because within just a few blocks, you can get a vivid idea of how smoothly and gracefully the city succeeds at simultaneously dissolving the borders between disparate cultures and preserving what's best and most valuable about each one. At Nu Bügel, you can sample wood-fired bagels (the sesame is a standout) baked by a family of Venezuelans; a bit farther down Augusta Avenue, two empanada

shops are directly across the street from each other, and nearby is a choice of restaurants in which you can enjoy French-Caribbean cuisine, tacos, sushi, and pastries and vegetarian fare at the popular Wanda's Pie in the Sky. On Baldwin Street, not far from Spadina Avenue, there's a Middle Eastern grocery, a Jamaican gift store and an Ethiopian spice market. And near the intersection of Augusta Avenue and College Street is Caplan-sky's, where the pastrami and corned beef (they're called smoked meats here) rival any to be had at New York's legendary delis.

As much as, if not more than, any North American city, Toronto celebrates its multicultural heritage. There is an online multicultural calendar devoted to listing the lectures, religious and national holidays, and street festivals sponsored by the city's range of communities. Often, it strikes me that the city is more successfully integrated than the cities of its neighbor over the border.

One paradox of Toronto is that even as the city enables new arrivals to assimilate into Canadian life - people talk about

how a certain neighborhood was originally home to immigrants from one area, who then moved on to a more prosperous district, making room for the next wave of people from somewhere else - its ethnic neighborhoods are strongly evocative of their residents' countries of origin, and the shops (and most notably the restaurants) seem more authentic than they do in other cities to which immigrants have imported their culture and their cuisine.

Consequently, the truth is that what I really like to do in Toronto - besides walking around and exploring - is to eat. There are places to which I return on each visit, new places I discover each time, and others I mean to try, don't get around to, and vow to return to, on my next trip.

So what happened was what always happens: The day before I was scheduled to leave Toronto, I kept hearing about the places I'd failed to visit, things I hadn't had time to do.

As always, it made me sorry that I was about to leave. And all I could do was to say what I always say: I'll simply have to do all that, the next time I return. □



Frank Yulder prepares racks of bagels at Nu Buegel in Kensington Market near downtown Toronto, Feb. 20, 2014. Eateries like Nu Buegel, run by a Venezuelan family and serving up Montreal-style wood-fired bagels, help Toronto both celebrate and preserve its multicultural identity.

(Ian Willms/The New York Times)